*HAS BEATEN THE BEST* (51)

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md. Sat. 5-24-47

# 'Rotation Slim', Wizard of the Chalk, Envisions a Billiards Champ Some Day

By FRANKLIN BROWER

Pocket billiards—or pool, if you prefer—is a "new field" for the colored competitor to conquer, according to George Hairston, who is more fondly known among the cue addicts as "Rotation Slim."

However, Hairston, who is regarded in certain quarters as one the nation's better billiards players, thinks that there is a dearth of good colored cueists today.

He admits that he, now in his fifties, is on the decline and concedes that little else but his savviy on the green velvet acquired over his 30 years as a topflight professional, is keeping him in the front ranks.

He used the term "new field" advisedly. Billiards is one of the oldest games but Hairston says it wasn't until recently that colored players received serious consideration as entrants in championship tournaments.

**Offers two Reasons**

He gives two reasons for that fact: (1) the best players seldom expressed interest in the championship tournaments when the contestants were decided by sectional elimination and (2) tourney sponsors, who have arbitrally selected the entrants during the past several years, have consistently snubbed colored players.

Hairston himself has never tried to break into championship play. He says he has been content to hunt out the recognized sectional champs and engage them in exhibitions.

**Has Beaten Good Ones**

And here his record has been enviable. Numbered among his victims are five former world's champions, Thomas Hueston, Charlie Weston, Erwin Rudolph, Andrew Ponzi, James Caras and the present king, Irving Crane.

However, Hairston, is planning on entering the sectional competition if it is resumed next fall. Chances are that it will, since the selection of players, for recent tournaments has been far from popular, both with players and followers of the game.

Although admittedly in the twilight of his career, Hairston believes that a good showing by him in championship play would pave the way for future title aspirants.

GEORGE (ROTATION SLIM) HAIRSTON

**Predicts Star in Future**

He doesn't see any likely world-beaters around now, but feels that someday a young master of the likes of the late Jesse Nelson, of Chicago, New York's James Evans or Paul (Pensacola Kid) Weir will come along.

For all prospective young masters Hairston recommends attachment to a billiard expert and constant practices. The good cueist, he says, strives for the perfect coordination of hand, brain and eye and must train like a varsity athlete.

**Chi Gave Nickname**

Hairston, born in Williamson, W. Va., first gained a widespread repuation as a billiards player in Chicago, where he went over 30 years ago after he tired of his studies at Bluefield State Teachers College and quit school.

It was in the Windy City that he got his nickname because of his proficiency in playing the game that is so popular there that it is known in the mid-west as "Chicago." The sobriquet stuck and many persons know Hairston only as "Rotation Slim."

He has been playing around Philadelphia for 15 years and has been a permanent resident here during the last five. He is now running a pool room at Broad and Bainbridge Sts. 5-24-47

## LEM GRAVES Jr.—Open Season on Coaches

WASHINGTON—Although CIAA alumni are in full cry for scalps of coaches—as is the custom this time of year—there will be few changer next fall. The reason: pickings in the coaching fraternity are unusually scant. Presidents are saying: "Be kind to our coaches; we can get good ball players anytime." It was not always thus.

*Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier*

Successful coaches, like Morgan's Eddie Hurt, Virginia State's Harry Jefferson, and North Carolina's John McLendon are not going to leave their safe refuge to face the hostile wolves at some win-hungry college, and those with only fair records have discovered, by experience, that the green grass on yonder hill is a mirage. Alumni at Lincoln and Howard are leading the war-whoop. The Lincoln trustees looked last year for the right man so Manny Rivero could be moved upstairs but no dice. At Howard, the administration, justly, I think, is standing by Eddie Jackson against the U. Street klan. There are other murmurings along the CIAA front but when the presidents ask for names of adequate substitutes, nobody seems to have the answer. Good coaches are scarce these days. *Sat. 3-29-47*

# 9 Major Changes Made in 1947 CIAA Football Rules

*Afro-American*

*Baltimore, Md.*

PETERSBURG, Va.—Nine major and seven minor changes in football rules for 1947, made by Benjamin Washington, CIAA commissioner of football officials, were interpreted and clarified here Saturday by Gus Tebell of the University of Virginia.

Interpretations and clarification of the rules were given by Mr. Tebell during the forenoon session, assistd by Mr. Washington, while an afternoon business session was interrupted long enough to permit a number of demonstrations of the new rules in action.

**Major Changes Listed**

Major rules changes include the following:

DELAY OF GAME—Resumption of time after time out—Following an official's time out, time shall resume when the ball is ready for play.

ILLEGAL DELAY—Time resumed—After penalty for illegal delay, following four legal time outs, time shall resume when ball is again ready for play.

POSITION— Players offside—Last year's so-called "first offended" provision has been deleted, thereby placing responsibility of remaining onside on each team, regardless of what opponents may do.

**Both Teams Responsible**

PUTTING BALL IN PLAY—False start penalty changed—A false start, or a shift which simulated a play, or feiging a change, or use of unusual variation of starting signals shall be penalized on Team A, whether or not Team B commits offensive offside foul.

PERSONAL FOULS—Section completely re-written, with added prohibitions—Formerly of half distance of field eliminated, while 15 yards, and in some cases disqualification, have been inserted. ("All players prohibited from striking on head or neck with heel, backside of hand or with wrist or forearm.")

FOULS BY BOT TEAMS—Distance penalty eliminated—Fouls by both teams during a play or after ball is dead completely rewritten and half-distance penalty eliminated.

**New Penalty on Fouls**

SPECIFIC FOULS PENALTY—Completely rewritten—Unnecessary roughness and illegal use of hands following kick from scrimmage and before ball touched by either team receives penalty of 15 yards from post of previous play. Half-distance penalty removed. Kicking team retains ball.

IMCOMPLETE PASS— Half-distance penalty removed—If Team B commits a disqualification foul while ball is in the air, last year's half-distance penalty has been omitted.

DOWN AFTER PENALTY— Completely rewritten—If such penalty leaves the ball in Team A's posession behind the point necesary for first down, number of down and point necessary for first down remain the same as before the snap, unless penalty also includes loss of down.

**Other Rules Changes**

Other changes made include the following:

Choice of penalties—multiple fouls on same play. In case of more than one foul, or a foul and an incompleted pass during a down, only one penalty may be enforced; unless second foul occurs during or after prior foul has been penalized.

Kick from scrimmage exception—try for point. A ball kicked from scrimmage on try for point may not be recovered and advanced by either team. When try for kick fails, ball is dead. As soon as it is certain ball kicked from field will not score a goal, referee shall declare ball dead.

Dead ball in side zone—in bounds spot designatde. The new 53-foot-4-inch line has been designated as in bounds line for dead balls in side zone or out of bounds ball (last year's ball was brought in 15 yards.)

**Side Zones Widened**

Field of play—side zones widened. The width of the field shall be divided into three equal parts of 53 feet 4 inches each. The in bound lines shall be that distance from each sideline.

*9-27-47*

Substitutions—privilege broadened. One and only one player from each team may be replaced while time is in, provided the substitution is completed before the ball is put in play.

Equipment— Arabic block numerals specified. A minimum of 8-inch block numerals on front, with 10-inch block numerals on back, with bars of numerals being 1½ inches wide are a must for 1947.

High school games—Intermission extended. In high school games, an additional 3 minutes shall be allowed between the halves for warming up activities.

*Sat.*

# Armstrong Named Head of CIAA Affiliated Boards

*Baltimore, Md*

*Afro-American*

PETERSBURG, Va.—Randolph Armstrong of Petersburg was elected president of the Affiliated Boards of Officials during a business session following the CIAA rules interpretation meeting at Virginia State College, Saturday.

Benjamin Washington, secretary since the organization's founding and commissioner of football, was re-elected. Mr. Randolph succeeded James G. (Pete) Tyson of Washington, who urged "election of a new president and a new secretary."

Those were among recommendations made by the retiring president as he reviewed the year's work and offered to resign "because I don't know much about what I am doing," and because he said he does not intend to officiate at any more games.

***Says Two Too Much***

Declaring that he meant no discredit to the efficiency of Mr. Washington, also of D.C., as secretary, he told the men that it was too much to expect Mr. Washington to do an efficient job both as secretary to the boards and as football commissioner.

Following election of the president without opposition, Maxie C. Robinson nominated William Jones as secretary. Then someone suggested that Mr. Washington be permitted to speak in his own behalf before the body proceeded to elect a new secretary.

Mr. Washington took the floor, declared that "for the first time in my career I have been cruelly and viciously attacked by a man who is right in this room," and asked the body to re-elect him as a vindication of his record of service. He was nominated and both candidates sent out of the room.

***Washington Renamed, 5-2***

Mr. Washington's re-election by a 5-2 vote was followed by a successful motion to make the vote unanimous. *9-27-47*

Other recommendations made by the retiring president included the naming of a committee on reorganization of the body, which would suggest necessary changes in the constitution, a committee on arrangements and an executive committee. *Sat.*

He recommended also that the members of the affiliated boards hold an independent meeting each year prior to the annual CIAA session to formulate policy and procedure to be followed by the boards in their dealings with the CIAA.

These were later adopted in motions from the floor, including selection of a committee to arrange a testimonial for E. B. Henderson.

Personnel of that committee are James G. Tyson, W. E. Jones and J. L. Hunter.

***Reorganization Body Planned***

Members of the reorganization committee are E. P. Westmoreland, Frank Burnett, Charlie Hall, H. S. Blue and Harry P. Williams. Members of the executive committee are to be named (from each board) by the nine affiliated boards.

First independent meeting of the affiliated boards, with 2 delegates from each affiliated board, is scheduled to be held in Washington Nov. 9

One new board—the Harold Martin of Roanoke—was admitted to membership during the season. Two other groups also asked that they be recognized as affiliated boards because of distance involved. Their request was taken under advisement.

# Grid Fan Blasts Incompetent CIAA Officiating

*Journal & Guide Norfolk*

**Editor's Note: The following letter was received from A. H. Bryant of Rocky Mount, N. C., an arden follower of CIAA football games. The letter is typical of the ever mounting wave of reaction that is being levied against the inept caliber of officiating in the CIAA this season.**

**Mr. Bryant in the prologue to his bristling condemnation of the officials states that "I have no bones to pull because I am a graduate of Johnson C. Smith U. and two of the officials were my schoolmates. But I am deeply interested in the game and the progress we as a group can make in it."**

**AN OPEN LETTER:** *Sat. 11-15-47*

As an ardent supporter of collegiate football and other sports for a score of years I believe a statement of a trend in football by close observation can be taken as a constructive criticism in officiating. During the past three football seasons the public has seen and read about more poor, bias and incompetent football officiating then is justified in a game that is as highly developed and supported as football is today. There is more money invested in college football than any other extra-curricular activity. In some schools it is larger than their funds alloted for building programs.

Over the weekend I witnessed one of the best games played in N. C. in a score of years between Howard University and Shaw University. The only factor that detracted from the color of the game was the uncertainness on the part of officials in executing their decisions on various plays.

S. H. Blue, referee, who in my opinion is excellent was made to look very bad because of the incompetence on the part of his official family of associates to function. One of his associates blew his "little" whistle three times. The whole group was in a state of confusion in determinng what to do with the ball on several occassions. *Journal & Guide, Norfolk Va.*

When officials make poor decisions they rob the winning team of a clear and honorable victory on the merits of being a well coached and physically fit team. The coaches and players spent too much time preparing themselves for the weekend affray to be marred by poor Saturday evening decisions. *Sat. 11-15-47*

**OFFICIALS SHOULD BE INFORMED**

The four officials should be well informed on the mechanics of the game and click as a unit in order that they might maintain the respect of the thousands of spectators and the integrity of their decisions will remain unquestionable in the minds of the players and coaches.

I believe that the following suggestions will help:

1. Have a general house-cleaning in the official household. Put those who have been severely criticized, and the criticism justified on an inactive list.
2. Place those whose longevity of time in service handicaps them in being alert to the duties of the game on a "Honorable inactive list with certificates of service.
3. Make it mandatory that officials attend officiating schools or clinics long enough to learn the rules and the fianl mechanics of the game and be able to execute. *Sat. 11-15-47*
4. Some standard of rating should be established during each game to determine one's efficiency. Too, there should be a rigid code of ethics limiting the discussing and criticizing co-officials, to others. *Journal & Guide*
5. Officials who are constantly making errors in the performance of their duty should be reprimanded and if they continue should not be permitted to continue the season. *Norfolk, Va.*
6. Announcers should be equally informed on the rules and regulations of the game and keep the public constantly abreast with the questionable decisions made on the field.

Unless something is done public opinion will cause the colleges to make radical changes and resort to bargaining for individuals, as they formerly did, whom they have confidence in as officials.

# Shaw Given CIAA

Defender, Chicago, Ill. Sat. 12-27-47

# Grid Championship

WASHINGTON--Shaw University of Raleigh, N. C., was awarded the 1947 football championship of the Colored Intercollegiate Athletic Association which held a two-day meeting here. 37

Shaw went through the season undefeated. Howard University's coach, Eddie Jackson led a group opposed to the awarding on the Dickerson system. He was voted down.

Sat. 12-27-47

The 35th annual session reelected John H. Burr, Howard, president; George Singleton, Va. State, vice-president; Arthur Chippey, St. Augustine, chairman of the eligibility committee; Benny Washington, Washington, D. C., commissioner of football officials, and Charles R. Rutherford, W. Va. State, vice-president of the northern district.

Basketball championship went to North Carolina; Open track to Morgan, Closed track to Howard; basketball (tournament) to Va. State; Wrestling to Hampton; Boxing to Howard.

# Burr Re-elected EBO President

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Election of officers and admission of six additional officials marked the annual meeting of the Eastern Board of Officials, held recently at Howard University.

Officers elected were: John H. Burr, president; Joseph L. Drew, first vice president; Jehu L. Hunter, second vice president; Benjamin Wasnington, secretary; William Temple, financial secretary; Charles Pinderhughes, treasurer.

Having successfully passed tests in football and basketball, the following officials were admitted to the board: Woodward Gwaltney, William E. Browne, Harry Wood, Walter H. Brooks. Maurice Jackson and Isham Newton.

A program outlining seasonal sports was set up with a chairman elected to conduct discussion on the fundamentals and interpretation of rules. Named as chair men were:

Sat. 11-15-47

Joseph L. Drew, swimming; Sylvester Hall and Welford Jackson, football; Ernest Tinnen, basketball; William Temple, baseball; John H. Burr, tennis; James T. Chambers, track and field; wrestling and boxing, Fletcher Turner.

The Affiliated Board of Officials, R. D. Armstrong, president, will hould its meeting at Howard University, Sunday, when an expansion program will be considered.

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General

## Success Is Sacrifice

The Black Dispatch

Last week, Joe Louis ended ten years tenure as the heavyweight champion of the world. No other man of any race, or in any other land has held the boxing championship title over such a lengthy period, and he ends that ten years with recognition as a fine, clean specimen of manhood, who has the respect of the world, and this includes the opinion of men and women of all races. 7.12.47

And this year there has come upon the scene Jackie Robinson, the sensational ball player, the first black youth to be accepted in organized baseball. Since his initial try-out up in the Canadian country, and up to the present moment when he is proving to be the best hitter on the Brooklyn Dodgers team, Robinson, by his gentlemanly conduct, fine sportsmanship and wholesome family life, continues to niche a firm place in organized baseball for members of his race.

Evidence of Robinson's effective salesmanship developed last week when news reports showed that Larry Dobry, another sensational Negro ball player, has been signed by the Cleveland Indians, the first of his race to enter the American league, and the same week Branch Rickey announced he had accepted another Negro youth as a prospective Dodger player.

There should be nothing more stimulating than this fine liberal attitude developing all over the nation to accept the black man on merit in the field of sports. It is both stimulating and challenging to the young Negro with talent and ability. It is said that a number of youthful fellows, possessing a deal of brilliancy on the ball diamond, are being overlooked because these young men have not been careful in their habits and every-day conduct. It is doubtless true that a large number of white athletes are not well disciplined, and conduct themselves off the professional scene in a manner not fitting to their station in life; but these irresponsible whites are not on trial, and neither is their race on trial, and that is the reason why Negroes, with opportunity standing close by, in these days should be careful respecting their conduct and the company they keep.

The recent expulsion of the Dodger manager by baseball czar "Happy" Chandler, evidences what we are talking about, but in this effort to go forward Negroes must present the best front—not the worst. Unlike the first suggestion that acceptance of Negroes in the major leagues is going to ruin the Negro leagues, the fact that Larry Doby was purchased from the Newark Eagles would indicate that the Negro leagues are going to prove a training ground for brilliant young men who will later be sold to the major leagues just as outstanding white ball players from the minor leagues find their way to the rainbow in athletics.

On every sand-lot in America, Negro youth should begin to have worthy ambitions in the realm of sport, but these youths should remember in their striving that success is sacrifice. To be able to measure arms with other athletes of the world one must have a clean body and a clean, well disciplined mind. Precision and accuracy does not stem from an addled brain. If Negro youth is to be stellar and outstanding, Negro youth must sacrifice night carousals and dissipation. Night clubs, cheap whiskey and all of their attendant evils must become taboo. All great people who have reached definite goals in life will tell you that in order to achieve life's ambition they were forced to sacrifice many of the baubles and much of the tinsel attractive to young people.

The opening of the athletic field to all American youth on a basic of ability and merit is a most challenging event, and Negro youth, as he looks towards the rainbow of promise, should consult the record, the experience and the rugged hills up which Joe Louis and Jackie Robinson had to climb. Neither of these brilliant youths were born with a silver spoon in their mouths, but both have been able to so carefully discipline and regulate their lives; to so develop pleasing personalities out of their individual selves, and to acquire the proper balance and poise that makes the world forget their color and accept them on a basis of competency, merit and worth.

Nothing in this world that counts and is worthwhile falls like manna from heaven. Learn the rules of the game of fortune. You'll have to fight for things of value. If you are a bum, ill-mannered and a booze-head, you may be the one, if you force yourself into the wrong place, to ruin for Negroes all of the opportunity and advantages others sacrificed to gain.

Daily Worker

# Louis Opened Way for Others

Mon 8-11-47

The Daily Worker N.Y. N.Y.

**By ED HUGHES**

By Federated Press

**THE OTHER DAY** Bill Veeck, boss of the Cleveland Indians, declared that Jackie Robinson and Larry Doby might set the same example for the Negro in organized baseball that Joe Louis has done for him in boxing. He said that for many years white scrappers alone held heavyweight championships. "Then Louis proved," Veeck said, "that a colored boxer could reach the top of the toughest class of them all."

Veeck was quick to sign up Doby after Dodger prexy Branch Rickey had pioneered the debut of organized baseball's first Negro player—Jackie Robinson. Veeck, though, has no real conception of how and why Negro athletes today have partially overcome Jimcrow's fetters.

Joe Louis' ring genius actually played but a tiny part in his rise to the heavyweight pinnacle. Sounds crazy. But it's clear—if you think about it. Daily Worker N.Y. N.Y.

**Louis happened to be born at exactly the right time. He had been born 56 years previous he could never have been champion. Even had Joe been born 36 years earlier he probably wouldn't have made it.**

John L. Sullivan was born 56 years earlier than Joe. He was the most renowned of heavyweight champions. Sullivan, though, would never give a Negro a chance to win his title. Mon. 8-11-47

A Negro was not given an opportunity to win the heavyweight laurels until nearly 20 years after John L. retired. Then, in 1908, Jack Johnson was the first colored man to become champion of the

**Bill Mardo, conductor of "In This Corner," is on vacation.**

world. To become such he chased Tommy Burns half way around the world for two years. Tommy was cornered and whipped in Australia. Later Johnson was persecuted and bedevilled—even imprisoned—for the courage and skill that enabled him to climb to the top.

**Heeding the wily promoter, Tex Rickard, Jack Dempsey drew the "color line" when he became champion. Tex and Jack wouldn't give Harry Wills a shot at the title during the alleged "Golden Era of Sports." Wills, a Negro, was the outstanding logical contender for a Dempsey fight.**

Mon. 8-11-47

Wills was young enough to remember the hysterical "white hope" craze that followed Johnson's defeat of the white fighter, Jeffries. Benighted white folk throughout the country organized "white hope" tournaments. They hoped to uncover a young white fighter who would whip Johnson, restore "white supremacy" to pugilism.

Wills, though, had never heard of a "black hope" tournament to produce a colored man to whip Dempsey. There wasn't any such stuff.

During the "Golden Era" and the years behind it, racial opposition to Negroes was almost countrywide. The Negro was lampooned on the stage, comic papers, in popular songs. A "good" Negro was one who "knew his place." He had practically no place, not even standing room, in sports. Daily Worker N.Y. N.Y.

**Only the labor unions and scattered liberals, black and white, fought wholesale injustice toward the great Negro population. They fought untiringly and well, though. Just as Louis does in the ring. They bled, suffered jail terms, yes, died fighting during those years.**

Louis began fighting in 1932. That was the beginning of Franklin D. Roosevelt's first term. Joe won the heavyweight crown in 1937, about the time FDR set up his fair employment practices machinery demanding equal opportunity for Negroes in the workaday world.

These were the years bringing forth the first fruits of equal recognition for the Negro in sports and elsewhere. They marked the first closing of the 30-year gap of white intolerance toward Negroes in boxing, from Jack Johnson to Joe Louis.

For Veeck's information: It took a heap of fighting and suffering amongst fair-minded Americans to win for the Louises and Robinsons the recognition of a chance to get to the top.

It has been a fight to be proud of, worth remembering while not forgetting that it hasn't yet been won by a long shot.

# "IF" Two Letter Word Could Have Altered History

Afro-American - Baltimore, Md.

● By JAMES R. HARRIS

THAT OLD word "If" has precipitated a lot of controversies, especially in the field of sports, which never can be settled, but just for the sake of speculation, it is interesting to reflect on what might have been if certain things had happened. Here are just a few: Afro-American

"IF" Jack Dempsey had used his head in that second fight with Tunney, he would have regained his championship. "IF" Joe Louis had ever met Jack Johnson he would have had his ears pinned back. "IF" Satchel Paige had been given the chance, he would have tamed that "Yankee Murderers' Row." Add to these speculations, those as to "who was the best this and the best that," and you have the complete barber shop and tavern program, which will be holding the attention of their patrons until Gabriel sounds his Klaxon. Sat. 7-26-47

Joe Louis

**Dull Fight**

Joe Louis and Jack Johnson, in our opinion, would have put up a

dull and uninteresting fight. Louis is a short arm counterpuncher—so was Jack. Louis is a slow thinker—Johnson was trigger-brained. If Johnson had ever gotten over a punch like that Mauriello hit Louis with, a few months ago, Louis would never have been given a chance to recover.

Johnson could give and take a punch—so can Louis. Each has gotten off the floor to win. Johnson was a great kidder in the ring. In the fight with Jeffries, he gave Jim Corbett a tongue lashing, at the same time he was murdering Jeff.

"Go on and fight, you big black dub,'" said Corbett. "No, no," said Johnson, "too clever, Jim, like you." When Jeffries rushed in and clinched, Johnson got his goat by saying: "Turn me loose, quit LOVING ME!" Imagine the effect of that on a he man! Again when Jeffries missed a left, he raised his hands over his head and said, "Here, take a good shot." But when Jeff pulled back his ponderous fist, Johnson hit him with a right that really decided the fight right there.

### Joe's Weakness

I doubt that Louis would have known what to do under such circumstances. His only weakness, it seems to me, is from his shoulders up, a weakness of which Johnson wolud have taken immediate advantage.

Dempsey couldn't have beaten Tunney on his best day. I saw the fight in Soldier Field, from a forty-dollar seat, for which I paid five bucks.

These sport fans in Chicago are "kinda" rough and when they started a stampede to fill up the vacant section, they carried me right along with them. So I was close enough to see the look of vacuity on Tunney's face after Dempsey had smashed him. But the latter proceeded to do just what he had always done—step over his fallen foe and prepare to smash him from behind if he regained his feet.

Dempsey was always a foul fighter. His tactics gave Tunney just the respite he needed, and from that time on, Tunney was the boss.

### Satchel Paige

I believe that "Satchel" Paige, in his heydey, would have proven every bit as effective as either Feller or Newhouser, the best pitchers of today. Paige is intelligent, he knows how to size up a batter, pitches slowly and with calculation, and his change of pace is a remarkable thing to watch. It is unfortunate that he belongs to another day, for almost any big league club now would be willing to sign him up.

It may be that sports will provide the answer to many of our problems. The American people are coming to see, that denying colored boys a chance to participate, is only another way of denying themselves a lot of pleasure. Today we hold championships in four classes, practically a monopoly in the boxing game.

Jackson at Yale and Young at Illinois have given noteworthy performances on the gridiron. Robinson led his league in one branch of play, and was second in another. Most kids want to grow up strong, able-bodied men, and we should call their attention to Louis in particular. He owes much of his success to clean habits.

Most fighters ruin their bodies in dissipation and excesses which rob them of their stamina and strength.

This is my concluding "IF." "IF" we just keep our heads—keep the chips off our shoulders, and show the kids the big payoffs now being garnered by those able to do things better than the next fellow, the boys in the barber shops and taverns will really have some issues about which to speculate

# Dustin' off the NEWS

By FAY YOUNG

**During Mr. Harper's vacation this column will be conducted by guest contributors.**

## NEGRO ATHLETES ARE ENJOYING THEIR GREATEST YEAR

NEGRO athletes are enjoying their greatest year. Nowhere in the past—not even in 1935 when Jesse Owens equaled one and established three world records at Ann Arbor, Mich., in the Western Conference Track and Field Championship—have these men of African descent been so highly acclaimed by the populace and the press.

Robinson

Much of this popularity, especially in boxing and baseball, is due to the manner in which Joe Louis Barrow, undefeated world heavyweight champion, and Jackie Robinson, first baseman of the Brooklyn National League baseball club, have conducted themselves.

Louis, by his calm demeanor, and Robinson who is on the same order, are two men who can be held up as fine examples of our athletes who have reached the pinnacle of success and who have been able to pave the road for others of their race to follow.

The Brown Bomber came along at a time when a fight between a white and a black boxer for a world championship was all right in seven of the eight divisions. But pugilistic fame in the heavyweight class was frowned upon by even the most fair-minded white sport writers, educators, municipal and government officials. They objected to a meeting of two big men for a world championship because they "feared" a race riot.

THERE haven't been any race riots following any of Joe Louis' fights. All races admire Louis. Even the men whom he defeats in the ring have the kindest feeling for the champion.

The same is true of Jackie Robinson with but few exceptions. A gentleman both on and off the field, he has had to swallow more insults than Louis.

Only recently at Wrigley Field the Brooklyn players were aggravated because from the Cubs' dugout came such taunts as "don't worry about the black n——" and "You black Alligator," all hurled at Robinson. Robinson's answer was to upset the Cubs' play even though they won the game.

Naturally, we might remember what we used to hear when a youngster.

It ran something like this:

"Sticks and stones will break my bones
But names will never hurt me.
When you're dead and in your grave
You'll remember what you called me."

Robinson, of course, isn't anything the Cubs called him.

But that doesn't excuse the vile methods used by the Cub players or the foul language which came from the Philadelphia bench earlier in the season and for which Manager Chapman was censured by the league president.

Robinson, like Louis, wore the uniform of a United States soldier. Jackie is like a piece of steel. We once remarked that we didn't believe he had any nerves because he is never affected by the nasty remarks thrown at him.

Batting around .300 all season, he now becomes one of the greatest base stealers to loom up on the baseball horizon since the days of Ty Cobb. And some of the sport writers have been claiming that he is greater than Cobb.

Following Robinson has been Lawrence Doby, who was signed on July 5, by the Cleveland Indians; Willard Junior Brown, an outfielder, and Henry Thompson, an infielder, both bought from the Kansas City Monarchs by the St. Louis Browns of the American League on July 15 and Dan Bankhead, Memphis hurler, was signed by the Brooklyn Dodgers on Aug. 23, the same day the St. Louis club released Thompson and Brown.

Robinson came up after one year's trial with the International League where, as a member of the Montreal Royals, a Brooklyn farm club, he led the league in batting and was the best defensive second baseman in the league. Doby, Brown and Thompson jumped from Negro league clubs in fast company.

IN professional football, the bars are down. Claude "Buddy" Young, the former Illinois star halfback and Archie Harris, ex-end at the University of Indiana, are with the New York Yankees. The last word from the Los Angeles Dons was to the effect that eight Negroes were trying out for that team with John Brown, the Gary, Ind. center from North Carolina State college for Negroes, sure to make the team. Others on that squad are Bert Piggott of Illinois and Pelican Hill, late of Southern University.

Elmore Harris has been signed by the Brooklyn Dodgers. Saturday night he ran 100 yards to score against the Rockets.

The Chicago Rockets have Bill Bass, late of Tennessee State college in Nashville and the University of Nevada; Sheppard of Texas college in Tyler, Texas, and Bernie Jefferson who starred while at Northwestern before serving in Italy as a pilot.

These teams are in the All America Conference. They have followed the example set by Coach Paul Brown of the Cleveland Browns who last year used Bill Willis, the former Ohio State lineman, and Marion Motley, the Nevada fullback who had served two years under Brown at the Great Lakes Naval Station. This year Brown has added Horace Gillom, Nevada end. Cleveland outdrew all other teams in the professional football last year. Now the others are waking up as to the reason.

The Los Angeles Rams, formerly the Cleveland Rams, used Kenny Washington and Woodrow Wilson Strode last year. That team plans to use more Negroes this year but is the only team in the National Professional League to do so.

* * *

ADD all this to the National Amateur Athletic track and field championships for junior men and women, senior men and women Negro champions and you'll agree we have something. Negroes will be depended on to help U. S. win the 1948 Olympic games.

One of these bright days Democracy will finally rule all sport. The bars will be let down on golf, tennis and swimming.

WE over-heard a conversation on the subject last week. "We can't let them (Negroes) into any more sports — my God, they're about to run away with everything as it is" one of the pale faces remarked.

He turned red when he saw we had heard him.

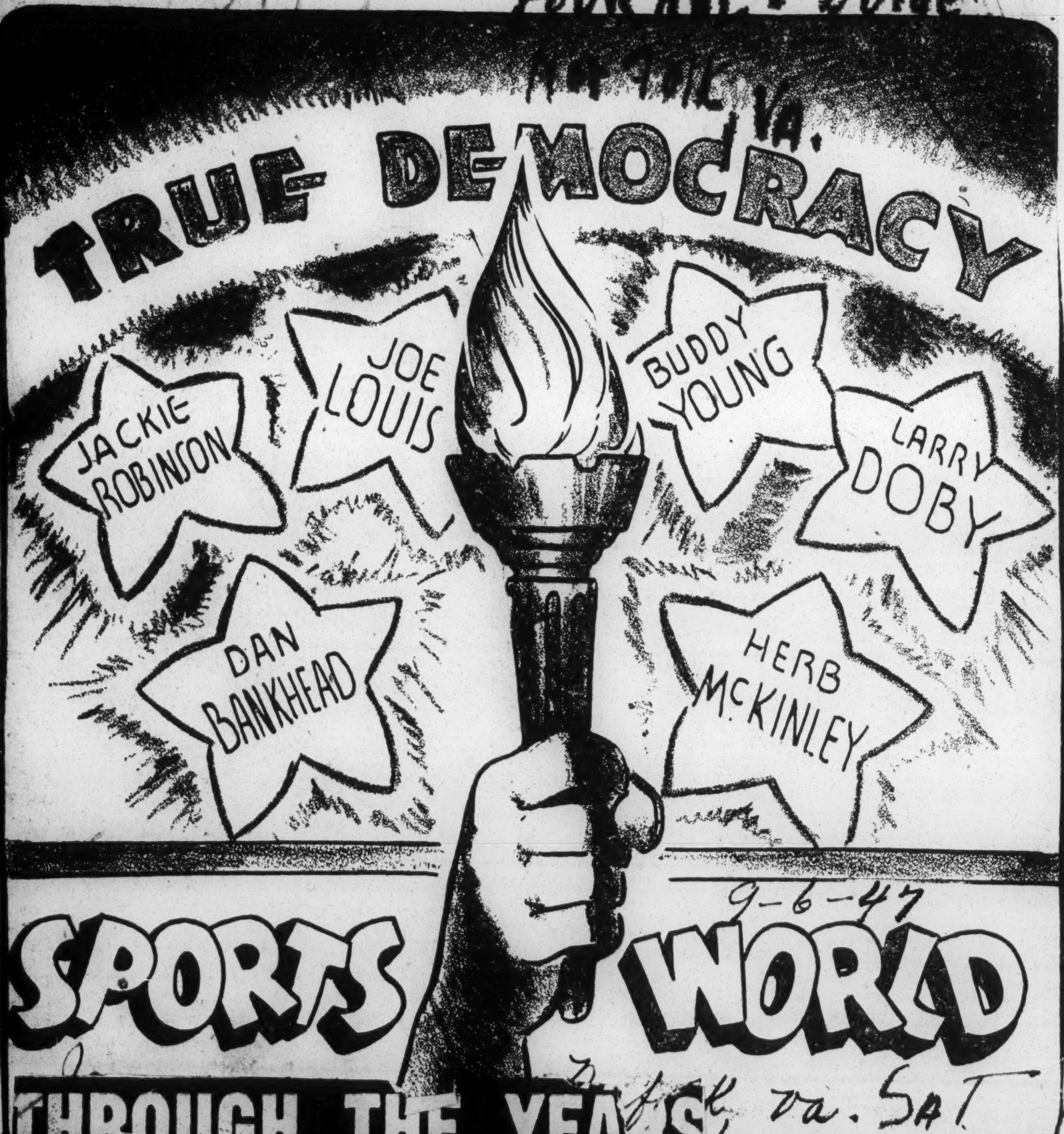
## Rating 'em

Top choices among 1947's outstanding athletes:

Jackie Robinson—Baseball
Harrison Dillard—Track
Marion Motley—Football
Ike Williams—Boxing
Buddy Young—Football
Howard Wheeler—Golf
Ray Robinson—Boxing
James Stewart—Tennis

# White Americans, Take Note!

Journal & Guide



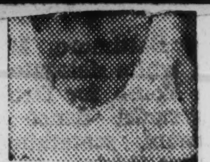

## THROUGH THE YEARS

By FAY YOUNG

Chicago Defender

The year 1946 went out with a bang. Top athlete of the year was Jackie Robinson, first of his race to be signed in major league baseball in nearly 50 years. Robinson topped the league in batting and was the big cog in the Royals' offense and defense to win the playoff from Louisville.

Top football pro player is Marion Motley who is rated the best ground gainer in professional leagues. He gained close to all the yardage Cleveland Browns made against the New York Yankees in the All America Conference playoff.



Dugger

Heading the list of Negro stars who played in white college circles this year is Levi Jackson, New Haven. Conn., youth, who was a standout in Yale University's backfield.

Winner of the American league pro grid title was the Jersey City Giants with Archie Harris, formerly of the University of Indiana, as starting end.

We got some place in the pro grid circles. Kenny Washington and Woodrow Wilson Strode, former UCLA backfield ace and end respectively, were signed and played with the Los Angeles Rams while Bill Willis, former Ohio State tackle, served as starting guard for the Cleveland Browns. Dolly King was end for the Buffalo team.

Dolly King, Pop Gates, and other former Rens and Globetrotter aces are now playing with crack white cage outfits.

Illinois University won the National Collegiate track championship through the efforts of its Negro stars.

Let's go the list of Negro 1946 champions.

**BOXING**

Joe Louis, heavyweight champion.

Ray "Sugar" Robinson, welterweight champion.

Ike Williams, lightweight champion National Boxing Association. Bob Montgomery is the Penn State-New York title holder.

**AAU OUTDOOR CHAMPIONS**

William Mathis, Illinois, 100 meters.

Barney Ewell, Shanahan C.C. Philadelphia, 200 meters.

Elmore Harris, Long Branch, N.J. 400 meters.

Dave Albritton, Dayton A.C. high jump.

Harrison Dillard, Baldwin-Wallace University, Cleveland, 110 meters high hurdles.

Harrison Dillard, Baldwin-Wallace University, Cleveland, 200 meters low hurdles.

Willie Steele, San Diego State, broad jump.

**AAU INDOOR**

Ed Dugger, Dayton A.C., 60 yards low hurdles.

Ed Dugger, Dayton A.C., 60 yards high hurdles.

Sam Richardson, N.Y. Pioneer Club, broad jump.

Elmore Harris, 600 yards.

Tom Carey, N.Y. Pioneer Club, 60 yards dash.

**AAU WOMEN, INDOOR**

Lily Purifoy, Tuskegee, 50 yards hurdles.

Alice Coachman, Tuskegee, 50 yards dash.

Alice Coachman, Tuskegee, high jump.

Team championship: Tuskegee Institute.

**AAU WOMEN, OUTDOORS**

Alice Coachman, Tuskegee, 50 meters.

Alice Coachman, Tuskegee, 100 meters.

Alice Coachman, Tuskegee, high jump.

Team championship: Tuskegee Institute.

**GOLF**

Theodore Rhodes, Nashville, Joe Louis Open.

Mrs. Lucy Williams Mitchum, Indianapolis, Joe Louis Open.

Howard Wheeler, U.S. Army, United Golfers Assn. national champion.

Mrs. Lucy Williams Mitchum, UGA women's champ.

James Brown, Washington, D.C., UGA amateur champ.

**N.Y.-CHICAGO GOLDEN GLOVES**

Adolfo Calderon, N.Y., 118 pounds.

Cliff Hart, Syracuse, 147 pounds.

Bob Foxworth, East St. Louis, Ill., 175 pounds.

**BIG TEN TRACK**

George Walker, Illinois, 120 yards high hurdles.

George Walker, Illinois, 220 yards low hurdles.

Lloyd LaBeach, Wisconsin, 100 yards dash.

Herb McKenley, Illinois, 220 yards dash.

Herb McKenley, Illinois, 440 yards dash (New world record of 46.2 and new Big Ten outdoor record. Old one set by Dr. H. Binga Dismond in 1916).

**BIG TEN INDOOR TRACK**

George Walker, Illinois, 70 yards low hurdles.

George Walker, Illinois, 70 yards high hurdles.

Herb McKenley, Illinois, 440 yards dash.

Bill Mathis, Illinois, 65 yards dash.

**NEGRO BASEBALL**

Negro world champions: Newark Eagles.

Negro American league champions: Kansas City Monarchs.

Negro National League champions: Newark Eagles.

Leading batter (NAL) Buck O'Neill, Kansas City Monarchs.

Leading batter (NNL) Monty Irving, Newark Eagles.

Year's best singles bowler: Jack Marshall.

East-West game winner: West. Winning pitcher: Bankead of Memphis.

**HIGH SCHOOL TRACK**

Cardoza High, Washington, D.C., national prep champions of the National High School A.C.

**HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL**

Cushing, Okla., defeated Tampa, Fla., 44 to 40 for the national cage prep title in Nashville.

**AAU BOXING**

John Lester, Cleveland, heavyweight.

Bob Foxworth, East St. Louis, light-heavyweight.

Leo Kelly, Pittsburgh, 126 pounds.

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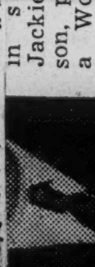
# Dustin' off the NEWS

## SPORTS PREACH THE BEST SERMON ON INTERRACIALISM

Defender, Chicago, Ill.

By LUCIUS C. HARPER

ONE NEGRO star on the gridiron or baseball diamonds with white fellow-teammates preaches a better interracial sermon than a hundred orators. The field of sports has truly contributed its worth in battling race prejudice. It reaches the multitude. The orator's voice, pleading for justice and fair play, is limited in scope. A Jackie Robinson, playing in a World's Series, will be viewed with more interest and renown in white American homes than President Truman's signing of an anti-lynch bill. Sports have always preached a sermon of goodwill wherever a black man has been given the opportunity to take part in them. It is one way to crush prejudice in the heart of the average white who will listen to no other argument on the subject.



L. C. Harper

The history of the greatest universities reveals these facts. The attitude of Harvard University on race question, and its liberality in admitting Negro students was based around the events of sports. The first director of Harvard's physical education, in fact, the first director of physical education at any American university, was a Negro. He was Prof. Abram Molineaux Hewitt, who was employed as an instructor and director of the first gymnasium built at Harvard in 1859. He remained in charge until 1871, when he died. When the gymnasium was finished, a writer in the Harvard Magazine of October 1859 had this to say of the selection of Prof. Hewitt.

"Meanwhile, most fortunately, the service of Prof. A. Molineaux Hewitt has been secured. He comes with an experience of gymnastic training of 14 years, the last five of which have been devoted most acceptably to the citizens of Worcester. By the fine accommodations of the new building, and under the admirable system of Prof. Hewitt, a fresh impulse is given to physical training . . . the uniform courtesy of the professor, and the personal interest which he takes in the exercises, keep alive the interest of his pupils and make the

hours spent in the gymnasium among the pleasantest."

Yale had no such introduction to the Negro through sports until the coming of Levi Jackson, its crack football star, a few years ago. So its classrooms remained closed to Negro students for many years. Known as "Old Eli," Yale students have jokingly changed that alias to "Old Levi" in honor of the sterling performances of Jackson on the gridiron. Jackson, it is claimed, has created more goodwill for Negroes at Yale than the hundreds of philosophers who have occupied its classrooms down through the century.

* * *

Sat.

AS WE TURN the pages of history we find many interracial sermons from the field of sports. Shades of Bill Lewis, Harvard's memorable center, who was the first Negro to make Walter Camp's famous All-American football eleven; W. T. S. Jackson, Amherst's famous halfback and track star; Mathew Bullock, Dartmouth's great end; Marshall of Minnesota; Fritz Pollard of Brown University, who, almost single-handed, defeated Harvard and Yale and was named by Camp to his All-American; and Paul Robeson, Rutgers' four-letter man in four sports, whose concert, stage and screen exploits have been heralded world-wide. Robeson was Camp's third Negro choice.

Without offending some of the other greats, we recall Fred "Duke" Slater, and Ozzie Simmons of Iowa; Brud Holland, Cornell; Bill Willis, Ohio State; Leon Taylor, Oberlin; Bill Bell, Ohio State; Jackie Robinson, Kenny Washington and Woodrow Strode, all of UCLA, along with Bernie Jefferson, Northwestern, and Horace Gillom, Nevada. All of these have done their part in battling prejudice through sports. This year, so far, outshines all previous ones with ambassadors of goodwill on the gridiron.

Never before, so early in the season, have so many Negroes captured the fancy of the hundreds of thousands of American sport-lovers who are filling the vast stadiums to capacity. Buddy Young, Paul Patterson, Bert Pigott and Ike Owens, all of last year's University of Illinois Big Nine championship and Rose Bowl winning team, would not have been able to outshine the galaxy of Negro stars now cavorting on the gridiron north of the Mason and Dixon Line this fall.

11-8-47 (51)

THOUSANDS filling the stadiums this season will see Tunnell, Earl Banks and Otis Finney, the last two from Wendell Phillips High School, Chicago, with the University of Iowa team; Levi Jackson, second year as fullback for Yale; Bob Dorsey, an end from Houston, Texas, and Jimmy Clark of Columbus, at Ohio State; Ike Owens, Gary, Ind., end, and Paul

Patterson, Aurora, Ill., halfback, at Illinois; Lenny Ford, end, Bob Mann, end, and Gene Derricotte, halfback, at University of Michigan; Mel Groomes, rated the best back in the Big Nine, Hugh McKinnis and Taliaferro, two other backs, Wilfred Rawl, a transfer student from Virginia State College, Cleveland Brooks, an end, and James Roberson, fullback, all at University of Indiana; Jim Holland at Northwestern, and Eddie Williams, ex-Hyde Park student, Chicago, on Dartmouth's eleven.

Then, we must not overlook the Negro colleges with squads of 30 and 50. Players from these schools heretofore unnoticed by Negro fans—many from these same institutions—are making good. Take John Brown, Gary, Ind., center, from North Carolina State College at Durham. He's now center on the Los Angeles Dons professional team. Also William Bass, who spent two years at Kentucky State and Tennessee State, now playing with the Chicago Rockets. There's Elmore Harris, halfback, a graduate of Morgan State College, on the Brooklyn Dodgers. From the white schools to pro football went Horace Gillom from the University of Nevada to join Bill Willis and Marion Motley, pro football's best fullback, with the Cleveland Browns; Pigott and "Sugarfoot" Anderson, from UCLA, to the Los Angeles Rams, and Buddy Young from Illinois to the New York Yankees.

Within a very few years, a handful of Negro athletes, whose chief distinction is good conduct and clean play have done as much to create goodwill as some groups that shout calamity 24 hours a day. We won't be surprised if a new crop of leaders spring from the ranks of college trained athletes who have captured the nation's heart with their skill and fair play. The sports world must not be overlooked for its tremendous part in breaking down race prejudice.

# Dr. Ernie Wetmore Leader in National Trap Shooting

Afro-American (51)
Baltimore, Md.

By EDWIN B. HENDERSON
(For NNPA News Service)

It was my good fortune to be the guest of Dr. Ernest B. Wetmore on the occasion of the 15th annual "WETMORE DAY" shoot and banquet Oct. 23, at Tinton Falls and Asbury Park. Close to a hundred gun-men assembled at Dr. Robinson's farm and many hundreds of rounds of shotgun ammunition was sent out to crack the skeet and trap shooting targets.

All eyes centered about Ernest Wetmore's gun whenever he called for the clay bird. Seldom does he miss in his 50 shots at the 10 stations. More often than not his score is perfect.

11-8-47

Wetmore has been a competitor since 1929. In the early days lived bird shooting was permitted. He won the New Jersey live bird championship one of those years. To-day, only Pennsylvania and Missouri do live bird shooting. Dr. Wetmore won the Union County shoot eight consecutive years between 1933 and 1946. He won nine out of 10 shoots held in that period and last year broke targets in the competition for a perfect score. The year he lost, —he lost by only one target.

Sat.

Before he and other race shooters were banned from national competition because of race, Dr. Wetmore was among the best shots in the Nation. In 1931 or 1932, he was selected among those to represent the North in competition with the South at Pinehurst, N.C.

The North won and Wetmore's score of 194 out of a possible 200 targets was the high score and championship of the meet. His wife also scored high among the women contestants. However, the South did not know his racial identity. He was rated "AA" in the class of the tournament.

Following this event, the National Amateur Trap Shooting Association amended the constitution as follows; "Who may take part in a Registered Tournament. Five or more persons except those of negroid extraction. . . " In 1936 Dr. Wetmore was picked to enter the Olympic championship competition but when recognized, the tricky national fascists found reason to substitute for him.

However, Wetmore still competes against all comers in his home state. At the meet last Thursday, some of the oldest and most highly respected skeet and trap shooters of the so called white race competed. Among his most prized possessions is the Governor Hoffman trophy which he retired several years ago. For this particular trophy, he competed on the last leg, with a broken left arm and still in splints. His fishing, hunting and target shooting trophies occupy a large room in his home.

There is no doubt but that Dr. Wetmore has done more than any one man in popularizing target and skeet shooting and causing the formation of gun clubs among colored groups. Today the Eastern Skeet and Trap Shooting Association includes clubs in Baltimore, Philadelphia, Dover, Coatesville, Washington, Asbury Park. This year, his home club of Monmouth won the Eastern Association title. In the West, many clubs are organizing around the Rod and Gun Club of St. Louis which sponsors a national championship, an honor won by Dr. Wetmore last year.

Dr. Wetmore is held in the highest esteem by the true sportsmen all over the eastern United States. At the banquet Wednesday night in the Carver Hotel in Asbury Park, men of all walks of life assembled to do him honor. The mayor of Morristown, who is a dental patient of his, and many of the leading white sportsmen of New Jersey were on hand.

The professional men of his race have taken up rod and gun activity with great zest. The sport is expensive. Live bird shooting of 20 pigeons, for example, costs $35 as entry fee and totals around $50 a shoot. Skeet and trap shooting also require a fair outlay in gnus, ammunition and club maintenance.

11-8-47

Wetmore, like Joe Louis, Jackie Robinson, Jesse Owens and others, has contributed to better intergroup relationships. He has swallowed the bitter with the sweet. He never fears to enter a so-called open meet even though he expects to be returned.

On on occasion, a gun club, of which he was a life member, disbanded, sold its stock and reorganized in another county to exist without his gun. Many a timid soul would have have shunned the invitations to insults of bigots, but not so Dr. Wetmore.

Eventually, America will win the batle against the home grown Nazis. Wetmore's blazed trail will become a saga in the history of sportsmen of the rod and gun.

# 'Should Have Been Farmed' Thompson, Brown

Exclusive

Henry Thompson and Wilbur Brown, the two Negro players dropped unconditionally by the St. Louis Browns after a skimpy one month trial, feel they should have at least been optioned to a farm team as white players in a similar situation would have been.

The Daily Worker interviewed them at Dexter Park in Brooklyn before their team, the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro American League, played the Bushwicks.

Thompson, 22, sturdy, medium sized second baseman, said St. Louis manager Ruel didn't give any definite reason for releasing them and more or less left them to form their own conclusions. (The decision obviously came from a higher level than the manager.)

Ruel did promise Thompson, who played well in the few appearances for the Browns, that he would speak highly in his favor in the event of a future major league tryout.

Thompson was at first a little hesitant to speak openly of his case. But after reading the column in the Daily Worker by Lester Rodney on the matter, he opened up.

Asked why he had not been sent to a farm (St. Louis farms include Toledo in the American Association and Elmira in the Eastern League, both in last place), he said he did not know. He was confident he had the ability to make the big league grade, and nothing he saw in the big leagues changed that. He agreed, however, that no player finds it possible to join a major league team in mid-season and produce immediately at his best. Added to this, he said, was the inescapable feeling of pressure that still prevents a Negro player from being completely relaxed enough to play normally, and the expectation that a Negro player must not only play as good as the white players but must accomplish extraordinary feats of batting and fielding.

Complicating the problem of the newcomers to the Browns was the fact that team morale in the badly disorganized tailenders were not very high and they felt inhibited in giving off with the old pepper.

**In spite of everything, Thompson believes he hit well, fielded well and ran the bases well whenever given a chance. He also believes that the large crowds the Browns drew on the road were, in no small part, due to the presence of Brown and himself.**

Brown, listening intently to the conversation and agreeing with all the points, added that he didn't think he was used well. A righthanded hitter, he was only sent in against left-handed pitchers, the concept being that batters can hit the opposite pitching better. Like many another good righthanded hitter, however, Brown feels he can hit righthanders just as well if not better than the southpaws. In one of his last pinch hit assignments he bashed a terrific inside the park home run that tied the game in the 9th, but soon after got his release. He felt batting averages were meaningless where short scattered appearances were concerned.

He agreed with Thompson that they should have at least been sent to the minor leagues on option to play every day, show what they could do and overcome any little flaws to be found in any players coming into the big time.

**Both wound up with the feeling that they were still potential big leaguers and hoped to have a chance to prove it.**

## It Happened In Florida

MIAMI—(ANP)—What "can't be done" was accomplished at Perrine last Sunday, when the Miami Cubs, a white team, bested the Florida Hell Cats, Negro nine, 5-3, in a snappily played game. More than 450 spectators, a mixed group, roundly cheered the playres of both teams.

Edward Smith, manager of the Hell Cats, said that the manager of the white team had long sought an encounter with the "Cats," but that he had deferred an answer pending a decision from his own players. When the team announced its willingness to play the whites, said Edwards, "we sent a favorable reply to Manager Dinger of the Cubs, and the game was on."

It was also disclosed that a Negro nine at Coral Gables is dickering with the Cubs for a game to be played in Coconut Grove.

# With A Grain Of Salt

By ERIC EPPES
Guest Columnist

## Colored Baseball Leagues Must Meet Big League Competition Or Lose Best Players

**EDITOR'S NOTE—Mr. Eppes organized and now directs the baseball program at the Newsome Park Housing Center in Newport News, Va. with one team early this summer; he now has a league of eight teams. In addition he has built by volunteer labor the best diamond in the city and a grandstand with 600 seating capacity.)**

NOW THAT Negroes have been admitted into organized baseball, another national field of endeavor is open to aspiring colored youths. Fame and wealth await him who can produce. The doors of professional baseball, meaning the National and American leagues, with their far-flung farm systems have at last been pried loose, and Negroes have entered and will continue to enter in ever increasing numbers. Those who are already in, headed by Jackie Robinson, brilliant star of the Brooklyn Dodgers, are a credit to the sports world as well as to the Negro race.

If other Negro youths are to take full advantage of this new opportunity, they must consider the various implications involved. In the first place, good baseball players are developed over long years of training under expert coaching. Baseball is a scientific sport calling for physical skills which at times seem miraculous. The game calls for exceptional stamina and abilities. And it calls for clean living and clear thinking.

* * * *

In view of the above statements, our boys must have the opportunity first, to play baseball; second, to play baseball under the eyes of experts, and, third, because of the peculiar nature of the present situation, they must be well grounded in the fundamental principles of social and human interpretation. To clarify myself, I need but mention that the men who have already entered organized baseball have faced some very trying situations on the field and as they travelled with their teams from city to city. And these situations will not be completely eradicated in the near future. Since this is true, only the pure in heart will survive. Hence the necessity for proper training.

It is our firm belief that this type of training may best be secured through our schools and colleges. We know that baseball in the past has not been a self-supporting sport. Nevertheless, in all of our schools and colleges, we feel safe in saying that the gate receipts from football and basketball are able to absorb whatever-budget is necessary for the operation of a baseball team.

Those of us who are able to remember the twenties and early thirties will recall the splendid baseball teams of Virginia State, Hampton, Union, Johnson C. Smith, Livingstone, A. & T., North Carolina State and others. Many of the players on those teams were of big league calibre, and all they needed was the opportunity. The past glory of baseball in Negro colleges must return again. Our boys must be given the opportunity of expert training in both high school and college, as well as on the sand lot and in our city and county recreation set-up.

Negro professional baseball can also play an important part in the scheme of things. Why don't the Negro professional league organize a farm system? There are scattered all over the country semi-pro and amateur Negro baseball teams with excellent material waiting to be organized. To be sure this is expensive, but the Negro professional leagues must realize that they are now facing the real crisis of their history, and they must make up their minds to do one of three things:

1. The Negro professional teams may come into organized baseball as farm teams (thereby losing their identity as an independent league and losing whatever headway has been made over the past thirty years to establish Negro baseball).
2. If they wish to preserve their independence, they can organize Negro semi-pro teams into a farm system of their own (or sit back and watch organized baseball do it in the near future).
3. They can follow their present practice, reverting to nothing more than a semi-pro league (and allow organized baseball to take their best players from year to year).

There are arguments pro and con for all of these propositions, and its is up to the Negro professional leagues to consider them very seriously in order that Negro baseball players may secure all of the advantages they merit. The new opportunity presented to us by the opening up of this field is too important for us to muff.

## Brown Drops Option On "Piper" Davis

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—(NNPA)—The St. Louis Browns announced last Tuesday that they had dropped their 30-day option on Lorenza (Piper) Davis, infielder of the Birmingham Black Barons of the Negro American League.

A spokesman for the Browns said that unless other club purchased Davis before next spring, he probably would go to one of the Browns' farm clubs for training.

# THROUGH THE YEARS

By FAY YOUNG

Sat. 9.27.47

**SOME FOLK DO NOT LIKE** our contention that a Negro baseball player should not be shoved directly from the Negro Leagues into the majors. These people have a right to their opinion but because they stick to antiquated ideas we are not going to be so foolish to go along with them. No siree—not by a jugful.

Since we were "knee high to a duck" we have had it instilled in us that experience plus ability is what counts. Some "naturals" just jump to the top of the heap but they are few and are the kind that would fall into a puddle of mud and come out with their pockets full of gold.

FAY YOUNG

One goes to opera to hear a trained singer, to court with an experienced lawyer handling his case, and if we wanted to hear a sermon which would really "touch our soul," we would search out a minister with some experience and not a theological school sophomore. Let the sophomore practice on somebody else.

We allow no embryo dentist to pull our teeth, let him put the instruments in somebody else's mouth and we don't want anybody experimenting with the cooking of any food we are planning to eat because they might mistake some cockroach powder for curry.

* * *

**ALL THIS BOILS DOWN** to one thing. Some believe every Negro who puts on a major league uniform is another Jackie Robinson. That just isn't so. Jackie is a "natural" plus ability but HE spent one entire season in the International League with the Montreal club. And time and again we have pointed out that Roy Campanella who played with Nashua, N. H., Dodgers in the New England League, finished the season as catcher with the Montreal club and comes up for a tryout with the Brooklyn Dodgers next spring.

Don Newcombe, formerly with the Newark Eagles, spent his second season with the Nashua team this year.

Campanella caught two years for the East nine in the East vs. West game and played in Cuba. But he needed seasoning.

Had the St. Louis Browns farmed Henry Thompson and Willard Brown, both of the Kansas City Monarchs, out to their minor league teams, both Negro players might have been on the Browns' payroll today. Larry Doby, with Cleveland, is a "lucky boy." He's still on the payroll but riding the bench.

Branch Rickey, first to have the guts to break the seemingly unwritten law against Negroes participating in the majors in some 50 years, needs to be praised. However, in grabbing off Dan Bankhead of the Memphis Red Sox, Rickey didn't get what he thought he was landing. He was like a fisherman who pulls in his line to find he has a three-inch bluegill instead of the whopper he hoped to get.

* * *

**AS THIS IS WRITTEN,** Bankhead has pitched in part of two games. They whaled him for a gang of hits and runs in the three and a fraction innings against Pittsburgh and against St. Louis, his two wild pitches caused Manager Shotten to yank him. And we touted Bankhead up as the best we had in the West. He might have been nervous but we can't believe that alibi since he pitched for the West in two East vs. West games before crowds of over 40,000 each. He needs some seasoning—and don't let that statement fool you either.

Now, Negro players are no better than white players when it comes to having to be schooled. Robinson might have been a failure with Brooklyn but the year with Montreal was exactly what he needed. It did him good—so good that he is now one of the outstanding players in either major league.

* * *

**LET'S TAKE A PEEK** at Stan Musial of the St. Louis Cardinals. He is one of the best players but how did he get to be the most valuable player in the National League in 1943?

Musial is the son of a Polish immigrant who worked in the Donora, Pa., steel mill. He played two years with Williamson, W. Va., after graduating from high school. His salary was $75 per month. Then he went to Daytona Beach, Fla., where he pitched and played in the outfield. He injured his shoulder fielding a line drive and his hurling days were over.

Stan tried out with the Columbus, Ga., team, then managed by Clay Hopper, who managed Jackie Robinson last year in Montreal. Hopper sent him to Springfield, Mo., after Musial looked so bad against St. Louis' hitters like Terry Moore and Johnny Mize.

Springfield is in the Western Association—a class C league. He moved to Rochester's class AA league in the middle of 1941 and the Cardinals grabbed him in their wild effort to stave off Brooklyn's bid for the pennant. In 12 games, this youngster who had been nursed with care, batted .426. He was among the top four batters of the National League in 1942. But they, the Cards, brought him up with care and spent some money on him. They never tossed him into the big league, harum-scarum, like some of our men and when they failed to measure up to those who had some years of training, were handed their unconditional releases like Brown and Thompson.

Put that in your pipe and smoke it!

# Steals Spotlight With Clever Base Running

Atlanta World. Ga

10-1-47

By MARION JACKSON

NEW YORK CITY—(SNS)—The New York Yankees in an impressive demonstration of power shelled Ralph Branca, 21-year-old pitching star of the Dodgers, from the mound in the fifth inning to win a 5-3 verdict over the Brooklyn Dodgers in the opening game of the 1947 World Series which unfolded here in Yankee Stadium before an all-time record-breaking crowd of 73,365 fans who jam-packed the Bronx Park to see the fireworks.

Branca, brilliant ace of the Dodgers' hurling staff, had pitched shutout ball until that disorderly fifth which saw the Dodgers through topsy-turvy fielding and nervousness assist the Yankee bats to victory.

Opposing Branca in the contest was Frank "Specs" Shea, a freshman with a season record of 14 games won and 5 lost, who had the expert backing of the errorless Yankee fielding crew, who responded to his efforts and bore down in the clutches the five innings he worked before being lifted for pinch-hitter, Bobby Brown. Yet, it was a good game.

**ROBINSON STARS**

Jackie Robinson won new millions of admirers for his jitterbug antics on the bases which plagued Shea and the Yankee infielders whenever he was on the bases.

Jackie walked in the first inning. He saw three straight bad ones ease by his head as Shea bore down in an effort to strike him out. Once on first Jackie did not linger long, for with a count Pete Reiser of one-one he stole second. Reiser then grounded to the box and Robinson was run down and put out Reiser going to second on the play and scored on Walker's single.

In the third inning Robinson brought down the house with cheers that rocked Yankee Stadium to the rafters as he was the only Dodger to get on base. After Branca had been retired, McQuinn to Shea and Johnson had made an excellent play on Stanky's high bounder. Jackie got a second base on balls. Immediately he began to harass Shea by his jumpy and skippy frolicking on the base where he took frisky leads. After three throws to McQuinn Shea balked and put Robinson on second. But there he was left when Reiser flied to Henrick

In the wild fifth, Robinson picked up Stirnweiss' hot grounder down the first base line and tossed a perfect peg to Bruce Edwards to nip Lindell at the plate. Then in the sixth, Robinson got on base on a fielder's choice, advanced on Pete Reiser's infield hit and came home of Gene Hermanski's neat single. In his final trip to the plate in the top of the eighth, the Brooklyn first baseman flied out to Lindell.

While going hitless in the World Series opener, Robinson was the first man to get on base; stole the first base; and set up the first run, when he pulled the throw from first in the initial inning. He scored one run in two official trips to the plate and was credited with eight put-outs. 10-1-47

# On the Scoreboard

By Lester Rodney

## Chat With a Negro Coach

**OVER THE CHOW** at the Basketball Writers' enlarged shindig, which included all visiting court coaches here for their annual rules conference, found out a few things about sports in the Negro colleges I never knew before.

Sitting next to me was Johnny McLendon, coach of North Carolina College. His team just won the championship of the 16-school Colored Intercollegiate Athletic Ass'n. Johnny hails originally from Kansas and attended Kansas U.

**"I guess I was the man responsible for ending boxing as a varsity sport there for a long time," he smiled. "I made the team in '34 and when some of the big-wigs wanted to throw me off, the whole team quit in protest.**

"Things are a little better out there now," he continued. "They've licked Jimcrow in track and football. I don't think Phog Allen has broken down in basketball yet but I see where Nebraska's students threaten to pull out of the Conference if the ban isn't broken in all six schools."

How did he wind up as coach of North Carolina and how does he like it there?

McLendon was candid. "I didn't elect to go south out of preference," he said, "but there's where the opportunity was to coach."

**NORTH CAROLINA COLLEGE**, a new state institution, is located in Durham, and has 1000 students. Most of them, he said, come from the state, but the majority of the athletes hail from Pennsylvania, Indiana and Illinois. **"I guess that's because they had more chances to compete in regular high schools and get the benefit of topnotch competition and coaching,"** he mused.

The gym seats 1500 and is packed for all basketball games. "We don't segregate, needless to say," McLendon said with a touch of wryness. "And if any white folks want to see the basketball game of course they're welcome the same as anyone else."

He added that interest in Negro college competition is high throughout the South. North Carolina A&T in Greensboro plays to packed houses of 12,000, "mostly white, they tell me." And Tennessee State, another member of the Conference, pulls crowds of 23,000.

For an idea of the kind of football played, the North Carolina A&T team which so impressed New Yorkers last fall in trouncing New London 56-6 at the Polo Grounds was beaten four times in its own league, by Morgan, Hampton, Virginia State and Shaw.

As for the caliber of basketball:

"Well, did you see Charley Cooper with Duquesne?—Some of my boys played with him. I think you might say our team is about like five Charley Coopers!"

**GOING BACK TO COOPER** and Duquesne, McLendon was very happy about the way the Pittsburgh lads told off the Tennessee U. coach who dared ask them in their own gym to bench Cooper. **"We follow those events closely down there,"** he said,

**"We follow CCNY closely too," he said. "I guess we just naturally root for a mixed democratic team like that. I'm sure looking forward to seeing them play in the NCAA tourney game.**

"Maybe I ought to avoid any misunderstanding on how we coaches at the Negro schools feel," he added thoughtfully. "Of course we like to get topnotch athletes and turn out fine teams but we're also very happy to see more and more Negro boys getting into the big schools and competing.

"We do get a lot of basketball players from the Midwest, however, because of that Big 9 ban."

According to McLendon, Len Ford of Michigan U., the great Negro football end, is one of the best basketball players in the country and might have meant the Big 9 title for the Ann Arbor school if he had been on the team.

**"And yet, he went on, "did you know that in 1945 there was a Negro basketball player on the Iowa U. varsity team—the championship team of the Big 9—Culbertson?"**

How come, I asked, what happened to the ban?

Mc Lendon shrugged. **"Don't know. You tell me. But there it was. He just played and that was the end of it."**

How would he rate his own team with the best regular college teams? **"I think our boys could take good care of ourselves. There weren't many college teams down South I saw we couldn't have beaten."**

His outstanding star this year, he went on, was Tom Brown, who also happens to be a great football center **"He starred in the big Spaghetti Bowl game in Italy you may have read about. He's a senior and may decide to go into the big pro football leagues this fall"**

Almost all the team members are veterans. . . . How did they feel about things? **"Well,"** said Mc Lendon, **"You know how they feel. They just sort of keep from things, stick pretty much to our campus. But bad as it is North Carolina isn't the worst Southern state. For instance there's the Chapel Hill campus nearby (North Carolina University). Their football coach, Carl Snavely, whom you may remember from Cornell and the Bud Holland days, has been helpful in some ways."**

**"By the way,"** he concluded as the coffee was poured and the speeches began, **"We go big for boxing down there as you might expect and there's a new interest in baseball."**

**Since Jackie Robinson?**

**"Since Jackie Robinson."**

# On the Scoreboard

By Lester Rodney

Ah, amateurism.

By Webster definition, an amateur is **"an athlete who has never used any athletic art professionally or as a means of livelihood. One who has not taken part in contests open to professionals."**

In real life the definition could better be "One who never takes a check—only cash."

There is in American sports a vast hypocrisy on the question of amateurism. An elaborate pretense believed by nobody is maintained that star football players snatched from high school, diploma in hand, by college scouts receive no inducement to go to far away Siwash rather than nearby Kibosh, that tennis players and track men roaming the land the year round in tournaments and meets pay for their own calories.

**Occasionally someone will break out with a bit of refreshing candor. Like George Lott, the ex Davis Cup tennis star who outraged the blueblood Lawn Tennis Association with the amiable admission that he was "a tennis bum," doing nothing else for a living, and living very well.**

Now on the whole the deception, while hardly an ennobling and character-building business, is fairly harmless. As things go we're happy to see the "amateur" football players who bring in the Saturday afternoon millions get something for their sweat and bruises. Some day the whole foolish fable will be examined and laughed out of existence and the phony differences between amateurism and professional athletes will die dead. For in truth, pure dictionary amateurism ended the day Yale and Harvard stopped trotting out eleven students to play football on the school lawn and threw up a fence and a box office.

On the whole, as we said before, the pretense is harmless—like Santa Claus. But there are exceptions. The branding of someone as a non-amateur on the wheezy whim of the august Amateur Athletic Union can hurt.

## Thorpe, Owen—and Buddy Young

**JIM THORPE**, as great an all around athlete as our country ever produced, was publicly forced to give back the medals he won at the Swedish Olympic Games of 1908 because some zealous guardian of purity bothered to bring up the fact that the far from wealthy Thorpe had once accepted generous expenses for an athletic appearance.

**Jesse Owens, the one man track team whose flying spikes kicked up enough Berlin dust in winning four Olympic events to choke Adolph Hitler, was humiliated several years later in somewhat similar fashion.**

And this year we have some new cases to show how flighty and haphazard can be the Olympian Gods of the AAU in handing down their lightning bolts from on high.

Buddy Young, the gifted young Negro track and football star, has been suspended from amateur competition by the AAU for one year. The crime he committed is that he **ALMOST** became a professional football player. We had always thought almost didn't count except in horseshoes.

Buddy had announced his intention of playing in a West Coast football game, presumably for money. The game was cancelled so he didn't play. He took no money, only travelling expenses, a privilege even of the purest haloed amateur. The point is he DIDN'T play and DIDN'T become a pro.

**But the AAU has a rule on this almost business. And it can be pretty stern and rule bound—sometimes. It told Buddy he had violated the rule which states "A man who solicits pay for participation in sports makes himself ineligible. Even if he doesn't turn pro he is suspended for one year."**

So there is Buddy, neither amateur nor pro. He doesn't want to turn pro because he is an outstanding candidate for our 1948 Olympic team. And his present status precludes his taking part in meets leading up to the Olympics, meets important for conditioning and recognition.

## And Messrs. B. & D.

**NOW WE LEAVE** Young for the moment and turn to another case, that of the justly famed West Point footballers, Davis and Blanchard, Messrs. "Outside and Inside."

**What do we find here? The touchdown twins put it on paper that they were ripe for "pay for participation in sport." The sanctimonious gentleman of the AAU can still find it in the West Point files, an application for a four months furlough upon graduation in order to play pro football and sock away lots of folding green stuff.**

With Republican Senators swooning all over the Capitol, the boys were quickly turned down. They didn't turn pro.

**Can you see any difference in the two cases? The crime in both, according to the grim—and ridiculous—AAU code, was "soliciting pay."** But Davis and Blanchard are still amateurs. Glenn, in fact, has been running in AAU track meets every Saturday night at the Garden, and more power to him.

But Buddy Young is a bad man, an outlaw.

So you see that the question of amateurism, which is largely hilariously funny and quite harmless, can occasionally become a cruel and unfair thing in the hands of men who are subject to whims—or color blinded.

# Reader's Corner:

Daily Worker

## Kentucky Reader Says We're Provincial New Yorkers

Lexington, Ky.

Sports Editors, Daily Worker:

I thoroughly agree with your campaign that Negroes in sports receive their just recognization. And I thoroughly agree with your fight against any kind of discrimination, anti-Negro or anti-Jewish baiting etc. But definitely I do not like your provincial New Yorkish slant. New York, N.Y.

My specific peeve is your attitude toward the University of Kentucky and its basketball team. And I am not kicking because of your grudging admission of its proficiency. Personally I think that although the University of Kentucky (Kentucky to you) has the No. 1 basketball team in the nation, it is actually only the third best team competing in Kentucky. In the opinion of some competent local observers both Western and Eastern Kentucky would have a better chance in your tourney, since they are more consistent performers.

In fact you are only supposing that the University squad here, their coach or the faculty may object to playing against teams with Negroes on it. I can not definitely assure you one way or the other—but no one at the University admits having been thought of it yet, although my enquiries were rather guarded and not too extensive. One thing I am certain of is that if they do refuse an invitation to the tourney on that ground it will raise such a storm of protest on the campus and in the city here that some heads will roll.

Sincerely,

J. COOPER

New York, N.Y.

**Dear Mr. Cooper:**

**We're happy to hear your on-the-spot opinion of the likelihood of Kentucky's fine team coming back here to play in one of the tournaments. As for our "provincial New York slant," you'll have to come again with more ammunition. We certainly have given the U. of Kentucky team consistent rating as the best we've seen.**

Daily Worker

**As for Eastern and Western Kentucky, at the risk of starting a feud, we must point out that one of the key stars of the former is Golub, a transfer from St. Johns of Brooklyn, and that the latter barely beat St. Johns here when the locals were without their outstanding player, Dick McGuire. Certainly on their respective Garden appearances the U. of Kentucky looked far better than Western Kentucky.**

**Anyhow, Groza and Beard of the U. go on our "All Visiting" Garden team without qualifications along with Ferrin of Utah, Barksdale of UCLA and Tucker of Oklahoma. Hope to see them here with Kentucky for the tourney.** Tues. 2-25-47

Jackie Robinson told friends last week the "jockeying" to which he was subjected by the Phillies players didn't disturb him. Said the Dodger first-sacker: "I got the same thing in the minors last year and I concluded then that fellows who were on the bench when I came to bat couldn't be very busy, else they'd be in the field." . . . Jackie was suffering a sore throwing arm through most of his slump. Sat. 5-10-47

**Connie Mack, Philadelphia Athletics' owner, is wailing: "Nobody wants to help" his club. But he remains determined not to help himself by hiring qualified colored players. . . Pfc. Andrew Stanfield, former N.J. scholastic sprint champion, was a double winner in a GI track and field titular meet at Stoneman Field last week.**

Kirby Higbe, who was traded by the Dodgers to Pittsburgh in an unexpected move, hails from Columbia, S.C. . . . Leroy Reeves, groom of the Kentucky Derby's beaten favorite, Phalanx, still thinks his horse is good enough to take the Preakness at Pimlico Saturday. Baltimore, Md.

**Roy Campanella and the Montreal Royals were prevented from opening their home season in the International League last week by—of all things—snow!**

They're talking again about a match to clear up the muddled lightweight picture, with NBA champ Ike Williams booked to meet N.Y. champ Bob Montgomery at Philly, July 14 . . . Sprightly septogenarian Benny Washington, who served as field judge in the CIAA Open meet at Hampton on Saturday, has officiated in every conference championship since the 1922 inaugural.

**Jerseyans are wondering whether they've uncovered a new Jesse Owens in Dick Kimball, Scotch Plains athlete, who capped firsts in the 1900, 220, 120 hurdles and broad jump in a meet at Plainfield last Wednesday . . . When Lincoln University and Shippensburg Teachers met in a dual meet the other days, the former won every running event and the later swept the field competitions.**

Proving how consistently inconsistent race-horses are: Jet Pilot, winner of the Kentucky Derby, is a chestnut (light brown) colt, although his sire, Blenheim II, was a dark bay (near mahogany) and his dam, Black Wave, was jet black . . . if they were humans there'd be some questions asked.

**Henry Kimbro, Baltimore Elite centerfielder, slammed three homers in two days as the Monumentals opened their NNL season last week end. Two were swatted on his first two times at bat against the Philly Stars in the Quaker City on Saturday. . . . Flash Burn, winner of the $10,000 Gittings Handicap at Pimlico last Saturday, was saddled by Pony James, a Baltimorean, second in charge of the King Ranch Stable's Maryland string.** Sat. 5-10-47

The 24th Infantry nine grabbed the GI baseball championship in Yokahama last week, defeating the white 90th Field Artillery team, 8-3, in the final game of a tournament. . . . Cpl. Johnny Russell of Philadelphia, and Big Bryant, native of Harrisburg, Pa., are the big guns in the athletic life of the unit's anti-tank company.

**Jackie Robinson, struck twice by pitchers during his recent batting slump, cracked: "Since I can't buy a hit these days, they're doing me a favor." . . . Joe Louis, spending three days in Baltimore and Washington last week end, virtually "hid" from reporters—very unlike the Bomber of six years ago.**

—SAM LACY

## Jim Crow Sports; Doomed

Atlanta, Ga.

By MARION E. JACKSON

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — (SNS) — The Negro has come of age in professional sports. He is the magnet that has the turnstiles clicking with the syncopation of do-re-mi, heavy sugar or greenbacks, if you like your money to be vulgarly referred to. This boomerang exploded in the jimcrow gang's face. They had not taken into the consideration the universal fair-play of the American sports patron. That is why Jackie Robinson is packing them into baseball parks everywhere. The same reason why the New All-American Football Association can never survive without the magnet of Negroes on their squads. That is why hockey, tennis, swimming and other American sports will have to open their arms to Negroes. Jim crow is doomed by the fairness of the American sports fan. He has it on the run.

Daily World

The Brooklyn Dodgers have just completed their 1st swing through the Midwest. Everywhere the fans jammed the parks to give them the encouragement and goodwill that makes baseball the great American game. Sat. 6-28-47

Last year, the Los Angeles Rams signed Kenny Washington and Woodrow Strode. The public reaction and enthusiasm were gratifying. The Cleveland Rams in their 1 year All-American play which featured Marion Motley and Bill Willis, broke attendance records at giant Cleveland Stadium, and caused record crowds to flock to see them on their road tour which included every All-American franchise except Miami. They were barred in Miami which later went broke and faded from the league.

This year, the New York Yankees will have Claude "Buddy" Young on its roster. Elmore Harris will play for another all-American league team. Negroes that are on the playing teams of other squads. This it should be.

The Boston Red Sox are searching for a Negro baseball attraction. Under the new FECP laws of Massachusett, such a procedure might stay legal action, if citizens believed that Negroes were barred from playing with either the Red Sox or the Braves, because of race. It has been rumored that Sam Jethroe, Cleveland Buckeye centerfielder has been signed. Sat. 6-28-47

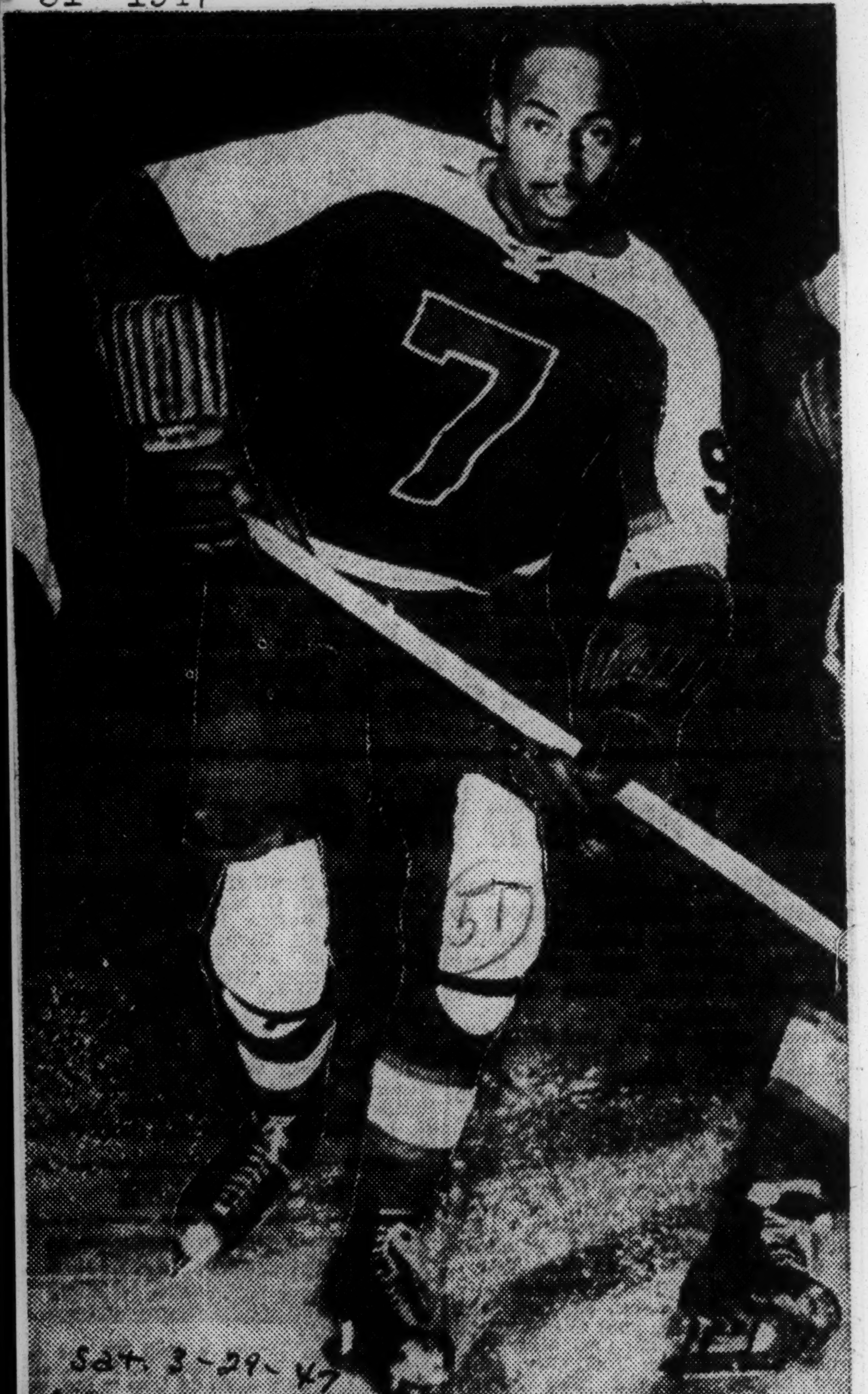
If the record-breaking attendance records brought on by the advent of Negroes in to professional sports is to continue, an adequate reserve of baseball and football talent must be kept under cultivation.

In football there is no doubt that there will always be a quantity of topflight players ready to be signed, but the same is not true of baseball.

There appear to be a dearth of high calibre baseball players. Especially those with the intelligence and mental stamina to qualify for the major leagues. The limitations upon the quality and quantity of speia baseball is that Negro high schools have to a large degree neglected the sport. Even now with the revival of the sort by Negro colleges, the play has not been of high quality.

Perhaps, the basis for this is that baseball, requires training almost from childhood to gain a high degree of proficency and that is where Negroes, appear to have apparent limitations. Sat. 6-28-47

However, an answer to this riddle is in the making. Thousands of Negro kids inspired by Jackie Robinson, and and players of the Negro American and National Leagues, are training now for important assignments with the big leagues. They hope to keep the turnstiles clicking with their names in the fame column and bright lights.



Sat 3-29-47
Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

**BREAKS ICE**—Pending the signing of a contract with the Montreal Canadiens, Herb Carnegie looms as the first of his race to play big-time professional hockey in the National League. Carnegie has proved himself a topline performer with the Sherbrooke team of the Quebec Provincial League, and promises to scintillate in the Stanley Cup playoffs.

(51) Horse-racing

## LAST OF A GREAT CLAN

# Skeets Holland, Maryland Jock, Hangs On to His Tack In Spite of Racing's Purge

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md. Sat. 5-31-47

By SAM LACY

BALTIMORE

The colored jockey has a hard way to go in the modern racing game. But not so with Raymodn (Skeets) Holland, 31-year-old hardboot of this city who plies his trade with fair success on the milers and half-milers of Maryland and West Virginia.

Holland is a wiry little fellow, who weighs barely more than a strong breath, but whose iron-like hands permit him to handle a ton of horse - flesh with the same ease you guide a pencil over a sheet of paper. He is one of the few riders of his race to survive in a sport which in recent years has conducted a purge of colored reinsmen.

**Once Dominated Spot**

There was the time, in years gone by, that Ike Murphy, Lonnie Clayton, Billy Walker, Charley and Jimmy Winkfield, Monk Overton, Ollie Lewis and their contemporaries dominated the Sport of Kings. But with the high-spirited commercialization of the sport in the early 'teens, white boys began riding the thoroughbreds, and that was the signal for the decline of the colored jocks.

As is true in every other highly-competitive field, the mounts for colored boys began to come fewer and farther between. And, in due course, those who continued to stick began to find themselves pocketed more frequently during the running of a race than was normal or expected.

Trainers, fearing for the safety of their horses, started confining thei jockey assignments to the white boys—lads whom they knew would get a free run of the track and who were not likely to get shut off intentionally. It was only natural, therefore, that the number of colored saddlesmiths should be reduced to practically nothing.

**He's Doing All Right**

But Holland is still around. And doing all right for himself, too.

Best evidence of this, perhaps, is the two-story home he has built for his wife and two kids in the suburbs of this city. About his financial standing, the rugged little rider says, "I'll never be broke again, you can bet that."

Skeets Holland and Wife, Clara, and daughter, Carolyn.

Born in Elkton, Md., in 1916, Skeets first took up with the horses of the fashionable stable of Mrs. E. Ambrose Clark, white Delaware society matron, who owned a string of thoroughbreds under the care of James (Jim) Healey, white. His job was "breaking yearlings," which means teaching one-year old horses the initial stages in the development of racing thoroughbreds.

Just 16 years old at the time, he had plenty of time to learn along with the animals and that is what Skeets did. Aided by Charley Smoot, who later became one of the country's premier steeplechase riders, and by Dick Jackson, a better-than-average trainer, Holland became quite adept at handling the reins.

**First Mount a Winner**

It was on a horse trained by Jackson that Holland "broke his maiden" as the saying goes on the race tracks, which simply means he won his first race. Incidentally, it was his first mount in his first race that he brought home his first winner—on a horse named Bud-Bud, at Cumberland, Maryland's half-mile track.

Since then, Holland has ridden an untold number of winners, at Laurel, Bowie, Pimlico, Havre de Grace, and, of course, at the half-milers, Charles Town (W. Va.), Cumberland, Timmonium, Marlboro and Hagerstown.

After two years with a port company in the South Pacific, Holland returned to the U.S., and to the tracks to get his best job of a long career. He was taken on by Janon Fisher Jr., white, prominent Maryland owner and breeder, and has ridden contract for him ever since. Sat. 5-31-47

During the Maryland spring racing season just closed, Holland rode Shivaree, a 4-year-old colt, to one win and three seconds for the Fisher establishment. In seven races aboard the Swashbuckler offspring, he was out of the purse money only once.

**Earns Money, Spends It**

While he won't be tied down to actual earnings, it is estimated that Skeets draws approximately $650 per month, of which $300, at least, is in the nature of salary. The remaining $350 is made up of earnings in morning exercising and percentages from in-the-money mounts.

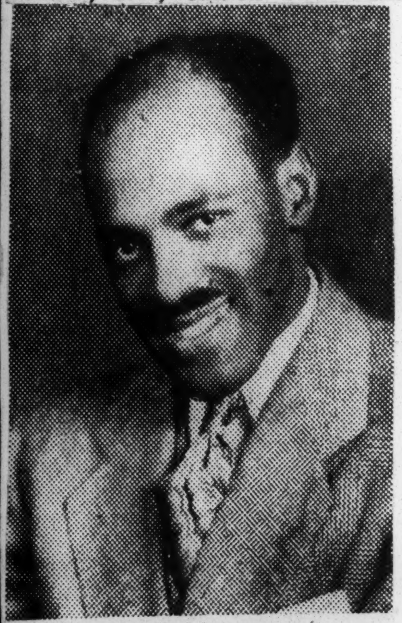
Of this, however, he spends close to $200 in payments to his jockey valet, tack purchases and gratuities. A pair of riding boots, for example, which costs in the neighborhood of $15, lasts barely more than two months, and the same is true of riding breeches, which range from $20 to $30 a pair.

# Health Journal Describes Prof's Game 'Hustle Ball'

Journal & Guide

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Hustle ball a team game invented at Cameron Junior High School here by James H. Watkins, director of physical education, has been written up in the Journal of Health and Physical Education, the magazine of the American Association for Health. Physical Education and Recreation, Washington, D. C.

The article appearing in the November, 1947, edition under the



JAMES H. WATKINS

title "How We Do It" gives a complete description of the game. The inventor holds a BS degree from Tennessee State College, a master's degree from the University of Michigan, and is now studying for his doctorate at New York University.

Norfolk, Va.

Watkins is president of the Nashville Interscholastic Athletic League, a member of the steering committee on physical education, Nashville city schools; 1948 chairman of the Physical Education section of the Tennessee Educational Association. In addition to educational activities he is a steward in the Clark Memorial Methodist Church, a Mason and a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

51 1947

Jockeys

A JOCK REMINISCES:

# Fred Brooks, Ex-Saddle Star, Turns to Autos

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

Seven years ago, Frederick Brooks, an ambitious jockey at 121 pounds, was riding winner in steeplechase and flat races at Middleburg, Va., Malboro, Bel Air, Md., Charleston, W.Va., and Saratoga, N.Y.

Today, with glowing memories of a lifetime with horses, he goes about his work as an on-the-job trainee in a nearby auto shop.

Brooks, 23, at 157 pounds, is too heavy to ride any longer. With a reminiscent look on his face, he'll tell you that a five-year hitch in the Navy, 1940-1945, did that.

His love for race tracks, screaming crowds, sleek horses and the humdrum around the stables lured him to secure his Maryland jockey license Oct. 15, 1946. He didn't stay long. Sat. 5-24-47

They made him foreman for C. F. Hinckle's Stables, because he was too heavy for the three-year-olds. He handled "Chicago Doctor," "La Galla," "Turbine," and "Danger Girl." Nevertheless, he yearned for the saddle.

He could have gone South, but he knew colored jockeys don't ride or serve as foremen, just mere grooms and handy boys. So he pulled out.

Brooks, who lives at 1705 Thirteenth St., N.W., comes from a family whose background is illuminated with jockeys and trainers.

His father, a trainer, has a farm of seven or eight race horses in Upperville, Va. Seven elder brothers are ex-jockeys.

Colonel Brooks, a brother, was said to have nosed out Earl Saunders at Laufel, Md., back in the early twenties. Joe Brooks is a tobacco farmer in La Plata, Md.

Frederick Brooks, having gotten his start in 1937 at the Brookmead Stables, Saratoga, New York, jumped to Arthur White's stables in Middleburg, Va., in 1939.

In competition, he rode winners as "Rolling Toss," a steeplechaser; "Teleway," "Fly Battle," and "Plain Ace," all flats. His father owned the latter two.

Although he loathes to leave the race track, Brooks feels confident he will make a success as an auto mechanic. Turning to iron horses, he plans to set up a garage in Upperville, Va., when he completes his course this year.

FRED BROOKS

# The Jockey Who Won Every Race on the Card

Afro-American Sat. 8-23-47
Baltimore, Md.

● By JAMES HARRIS

I AM the victim of a great nostalgia whenever I attend the races, for I can recall the days when a white jockey was the exception, not the rule—the days of Hamilton and Walker; of Murphy, Simms and Barnes; Stovall, Perkins and Overton; Clayton, Wingfield, Griffin, Lee, etc.

Racing, before and immediately after the turn of the century, was not the big business it now is.

In one day at modern Belmont, more money is involved than would have been handled at an entire meeting in the old days.

Just as they do in other fields, the whites started pushing us out when the rewards began to grow and also, just as we do now, we began to help them do it.

**Shining Targets**

Earning as much money in a day as the ordinary fellow earned in a month, those old jockeys were bright shining targets for the folks who love to shine in reflected glory. They were wined and dined and sought after. Sat. 8-23-47

Most of them, in consequence, yielded to the temptations of the flesh, lost their form in pursuit of that trinity of phantoms—WIN WOMEN AND SONG.

**Most were Kids**

Today, in spite of latent talent, we hold on only as exercise boys or grooms. Maybe it was only natural for it to have happened that way, for most of them were kids who had "run away" from home—kids with little or no training—with no sense of values, because they hadn't lived long enough to get it.

It is safe to say that three out of four youngsters of the time cherished in their hearts an ambition to "run away to the races," especially when the stern parental discipline, so fashionable in that era, became markedly onerous, thus making it "tit for tat."

**Won Every Race**

Back in 1907 I saw one of these great colored jockeys in a feat which has been equaled only once in all the years, and that time, only on what they call a "bush" track.

HE WON EVERY RACE ON THE PROGRAM!

The day was one of those perfect ones they have down in Kentucky in May and June and at its end a mob of fans surged out on the track, lifted that little black boy to their shoulders and in a regular pandemonium, paraded up and down before the stand.

> **JIMMY LEE**
>
> **By James Harris**
>
> Six times up on the prancing steeds,
> And ev'ry time first at the wire,
> In all the record jockey deeds
> There are none that stand out higher;
> Oh, how they cheered that grinning kid—
> It was a wondrous sight to see!
> Six times up—each a winning bid
> By remarkable JIMMY LEE!

When they set him down, men and women crowded around, slipping bills of all denominations into his hands, and some, who couldn't get near, into the hands of his valet, standing by with Lee's tack.

I remember one old fellow, in particular, who was especially vociferous. "By Golly," he said, "I parlayed the first three, but darned if I thought any jockey could ride the whole blame card."

**Can't Do It Today**

Today any jockey who rides four winners on a program gets a lot of publicity — just think what he would get if he should ride to win the program of eight races. Well, some day it will be done.

William L. Sanders and the writer, (Mr. Sanders is now president of Domestic Life Insurance Company) figured that Lee was riding one winner in three and that common ordinary business sense demanded that the matter be given further consideration.

When the ponies left for Latonia (now inoperative) we recalled that there was a story about a certain "pot of gold at the rainbow's end" and decided that Mr. Lee had it within his power to pilot us to it.

Anyway, we left with the nags and for two days Jimmy Lee lived up to prognostications. On the third day, the pretty bubble burst, when Lee got a nasty fall and was unable to ride again for months.

All trainers and owners pray that a good boy never gets a fall. You can never tell just what effect an accident will have upon riding psychology. Lee, for instance, never again reached the heights.

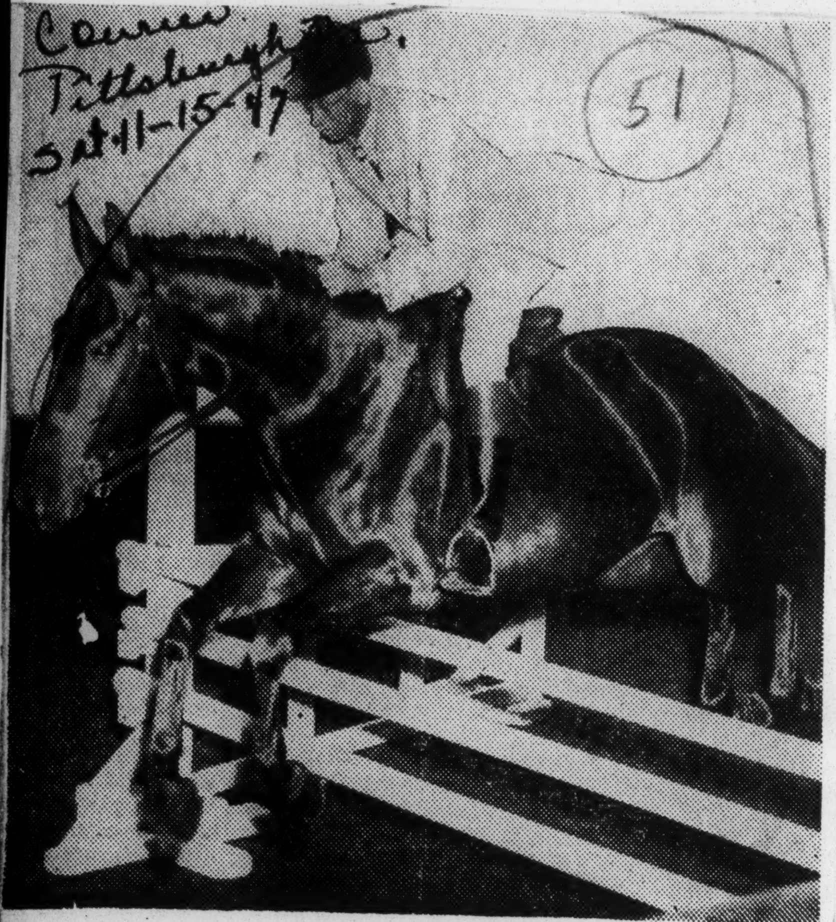
Some boys never allow a fall to change their dare-devil performances—others grow timid, take the long way around, and thus handicap their mounts.

There is a boy riding out on the coast who is a fine example of the first class—Ralph Neves. He has had more bad luck along the injury line than any other jockey of this day, except those of course who have been killed outright, yet he goes unhesitatingly into any hole that opens. Sat. 8-23-47

Arcaro and Longden, both very rich, and possibly the only modern jockeys who rank with those of yesterday, are so skillful that they seem never to be around when the mix-ups occur.

Courier Pittsburgh Pa. Sat 11-15-47

51



**COMPETED IN NATIONAL HORSE SHOW**—Ronald B. James, 17, senior at Fairfield College Preparatory School, Conn., last Saturday was the first Negro entry ever to compete in an event at the National Horse Show at Madison Square Garden, New York. Riding his own mount he competed for the championship trophy of the American Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.—Keystone Pictures, Inc.

*Exhibiting Own Mount*

51

Courier

# Negro Rides in Nat'l Horse Show; 1st Time

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sat. 11-8-47

BRIDGEPORT, Conn.—For the first time in the history of the big annual event, a 17-year-old colored equestrian—Ronald B. James—was scheduled to ride in the National Horse Show, which opens Tuesday in New York's famous Madison Square Garden.

The young exhibitor will ride his own mount, "Candida," winner of three blue ribbons and three seconds in six shows. James is entered in the Maclay Trophy class, the Children's Hunter class and the Children's Hack Hunter class.

**WON MACLAY TROPHY**

"Ronnie" won the right to enter the National by capturing the Maclay Trophy at the Bethlehem (Conn.) Hors[illegible]ow in Augu[illegible].

Young James is a student at Fairfield Preparatory School, a Jesuit institution, and hopes to enter McGill University in Montreal, his father's alma mater.

Sat. 11-8-47

His parents, Dr. and Mrs. A. Boswell James, and his younger sister, Carol, will go to New York to watch "Ronnie" take part in the show.

# National Rifle Association Denies Racial Ban Exists

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON, D.C.— (NNPA) Nothing in the rules of National Rifle Association bars colored persons from membership in any of the 3,000 chapter in the United States, national headquarters of the association said here last Friday. Sat. 12-6-47

The national office was questioned after a report from the Louisville (Kentucky) Defender, that William C. Cochran, a veteran of World War II, was seeking membership in a Louisville chapter.

Paul Cardinal, public relations counsel of the NRA here, said the question of color has never been raised in the association to his knowledge. He said each chapter is virtually self-governing and maintains complete authority in selecting its members, but that he knew of no case where a colored man had been barred from joining a chapter because of race or color.

Cardinal added that even if a rifleman were excluded from a local chapter because of race or color, he could still be a member by affiliation with national headquarters.

His statement was supported by John Schofield, managing editor of the American Rifleman, official magazine of the organization.

Schofield said there is nothing to prevent a colored man from becoming national rifle champion of the United States, and added that he would like to see one accomplish the feat if he is qualified.

Both men said they were unable to give statistics as to the number of colored men in the association because no racial breakdown of members is kept. They agreed, however, that the figure would be small.

**Confirmed by D. C. Man**

In line with the statement made by Cardinal and Schofield was one made by Frank Coleman, Howard University professor, and member of the Circle X Gun Club of Washington, an affiliate of the association.

Coleman said he has been a member of the Circle X Club since its organization several years ago and that he has never known the question of race to create a problem in the organization.

He said he has availed himself of the privileges granted members of the organization and that he knows of many instances where colored and white members have fired shoulder to shoulder in shooting meets.

51 1947

Professional

# U.P. Sees 'Door Wide Open' For Negro Baseball Stars

Daily Worker

Tues 4-22-47 — New York, N.Y.

**(The following item by United Press will be of interest to our readers, though the fact remains that no club owner except Rickey has done anything about signing Negroes. Only Pittsburgh and Detroit magnates, answering a Daily Worker questionnaire, said they had no Jimcrow policy and would sign the best men available—and they have done nothing to back up that statement.)**

Baseball and Pro football held the door wide open today for Negro athletes.

Football, long past the "experimental" stage, has 10 Negroes under contract in the two pro leagues next season and, with the barriers almost completely broken down, there may be more.

So far, only Branch Rickey of the Brooklyn Dodgers has defied baseball's unwritten law on the color line with Jackie Robinson already introduced as a major leaguer and a husky catcher named Roy Campanella on the roster of his Montreal farm club. But the wedge has been driven and after a look at Jackie in the big show this year scouts of other clubs will think twice before thumbing down any rookie—regardless of his race.

The All-America conference has eight of the 10 Negroes in pro football. Brooklyn, following Rickey's lead, signed trackster Elmore Harris and Sam Gamble. The Los Angeles Dons have Dave Brown and Oscar Givens, Cleveland's champion Browns have Marion Motley, Bob Willis and Horace Gillom and the Chicago Rockets picked up Bernie Jefferson. In the National League, there are Kenny Washington and Woody Strode of the Los Angeles Rams.

By Lester Rodney

Daily Worker — Thur 3-6-47

**NOTHING HAS HAPPENED** yet to make it appear that there's dirty work afoot in Havana as far as Jackie Robinson's tryouts is concerned.

Jackie is with the Montreal team, not the Dodgers, but this was explained by Brooklyn prexy Branch Rickey. The Montreal-Dodger games starting March 25 and carrying right up through Ebbets Field and season's eve on April 15 will presumably constitute Robby's tryout. Last year Montreal players Carl Furillo and Dick Whitman were lifted to the big team during spring training. The precedent is there, the promise by Rickey is there, and the ball player is certainly there—ready, willing and extremely able.

**But certain things being said, and certain things being written make it clear enough that those who fought the introduction of Negro players into organized baseball have no intention of giving up their dirty fight. And certainly the Negro people and all progressive Americans have good reason to keep their eyes wide open. Discrimination isn't licked by the edict of a well-meaning Branch Rickey. It has to be fought right down the line without any letup. A Rickey has to be reminded that the overwhelming majority of people who make up the American sports fan are right behind him.**

**HERE'S AN EXAMPLE** of the kind of thing being written these days. World-Telegram columnist Dan Daniel, down the training camp area, yesterday proclaimed in his headline, **"Jackie Robinson Out of Picture for the Present."**

He writes, " . . . from the way things shape up to me, Robinson isn't likely to figure in the early months of the National League race, if at all. The fates and Archy Vaughan are working against him."

What "the fates" are isn't made clear. Vaughan is the 35-year-old infielder who was pretty well washed up as a star in 1943, when he quit the game. With the best of luck to Arky, it's at least a little surprising to find an old-time baseball observer like Daniel rating him and his dubious comeback over the 46's best minor league infielder.

**Daniel goes on to say, "That Robinson was catapulted into no racial rhubarbs in the International League, even with its stop in Baltimore, does not necessarily argue that he would not be thrown into such things as the National circuit. I believe that Robinson would run into trouble."**

**And . . . "Jackie would not be treated with uniform cordiality and unalloyed enthusiasm by all Southern ballplayers of the National League."**

There's more of this stuff, including vague rumors about some Brooklyn players "having reservations" about playing with Robinson.

Having predicted "trouble" if Robinson comes up, Daniel hastens to say a good word for him as a great guy, etc.

What's it all about and what's behind such a column?

It's a carefully fabricated dope story without any facts, written by an influential writer and designed to create an atmosphere unfavorable to the ending of Jim Crow in the big leagues.

## Trouble for Whom?

Daniel is looking for trouble for Jackie when he says he believes "Robinson would run into trouble." He knows well that there are as many or more Southern ball players in the International League as the National, and that far from being any trouble, Jackie was one of the most popular men in the circuit. His manager and big booster, Clay Hopper, hailed from Mississippi, his roommate and buddy on the ball club was a southerner.

**Daniel also knows very well that any Southern — or northern — ball player with Bilbo ideas of democracy would go right on playing ball either with or against Robinson. There has been one change of tune by a prominent Dodger star from the South already. Twenty-five grand ain't hay, and might not be found in some other occupation.**

Daniel's predictions are phony, nor are they exactly new.

Back in 1936 a commentator named John B. Kennedy wrote an article in Readers Digest entitled **"Why Joe Louis Must Never Be Champion."** It expressed personal sympathy for Joe, but predicted dire things ahead if he were allowed to fight for the championship. "Trouble."

Joe did pretty well in spite of the Readers Digest. His reign may mean trouble for someone, but certainly not for the American sports fan or for democracy.

51 1947

SIAA

# MARION JACKSON'S SPORTS NEWS REEL

(51) World Atlanta, Ga. Wed 12-24-47

There are presently too many teams for the few conferences. Some of the collegiate conferences have reached their desired membership. That seems to be true of the SIAA which now has 16. Their theory seems to be a complete rotation of football competition every four years.

**Independent colleges might as well look other than at the SIAA for membership. Difficulties be set them as unattached colleges. Schedule-making becomes hard. Usually as unaffiliated colleges their gate value is slim. Should the independent college become too tough as a breather, off the schedule it is likely to come.**

Talladega College has clung to its SIAA membership while stripping itself of inter-collegiate sports. Xavier has SIAA membership and a working agreement in the Southwestern Conference. Grambling College is without membership in either and has been rejected by both. Miles Memorial College in Birmingham has unsuccessfully applied for re-admission in the SIAA.

**Two roads seem to be open to the non conference colleges One is to build up strong teams on standards required by the top conferences and play a highly selective schedule. The other is to form a new conference along progrssive lines. The latter could in its operation correct many of the weakness in the SIAA, the most conservative of the major conferences.**

12-24-47

A new conference with a city like Birmingham on its string would mean much. The people in Birmingham love sports. Birmingham is now supporting three major college football games, two involving SIAA members. Birmingham, Memphis and Atlanta with its semi-weekly newspapers in the first two cities and Negro daily in the latter could build up health three-city competition.

**All is not sweetness and light in the SIAA with its sweet sixteen. The so-called Bible colleges are beginning to say that they will not be able to compete in sports with the Tax colleges. For a long time public colleges in the Deep South were slighted, especially the Negro ones. But now the tide is slowly changing. Possibly overlooked by the old line colleges is the fact that here are more application for college than room for them.**

**Yet, it is too early to say that the Bible Colleges and the public colleges will one day part ways.**

College football is going to have to spread its games out. Tuskegee and Morehouse have done that in Columbus, Ga. Grambling has done that by playing in two nearby cities —Ruston and Haynesville. The Tuskegee--Wilberforce game in Chicago is another instance. Morehouse or Morris Brown might establish an annual game in Birmingham.

**Most significant trend is the return to campus football. Alabama State Teachers College has built Hornet Field into a beautiful lighted field. In Atlanta, Morris Brown, a private college has erected Herndon Field.**

# STRONGEST MAN IN WORLD HOLDS SILENCE RECORD, TOO

(51) Chicago, Ill. Defender - Sat. 4-26-47

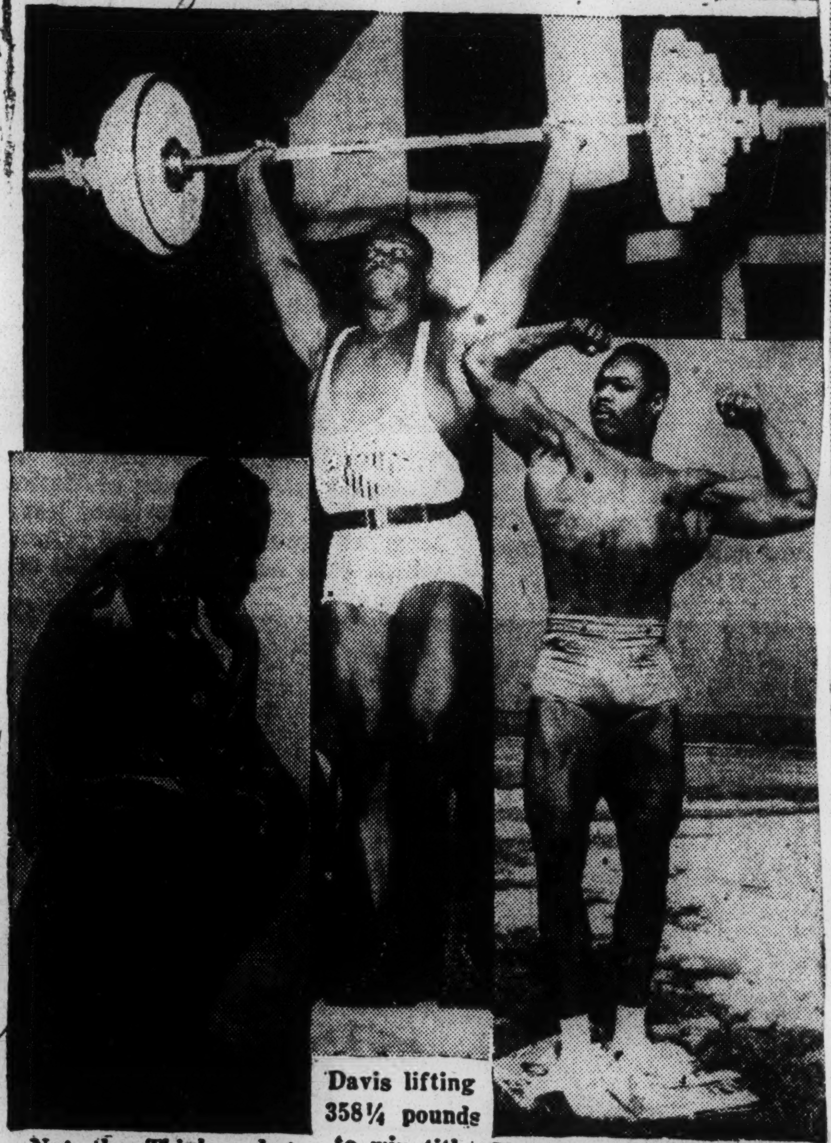
While the Russians and the Americans may be colliding all over the international scene, one matter on which they are in full agreement is that Brooklynite Johnny Davis of the York Barbell Club is the strongest man in the world. He is also the most modest man in the world.

The AAU records have listed him as champion weighlifter since the national meet in 1941. Last year, after a long stretch as a G.I. in the Pacific, Davis copped the world's championship in Paris, defeating Kutsenko, Russian champion, by 44 pounds, and the best that Sweden, Egypt, France, and England had to offer, but Davis won't talk about himself.

An international return match is scheduled for Philadelphia this Fall, and Davis is quietly training for it. Though a Brooklynite, Davis competes under the colors of an outfit in York, Pa., the York Barbell Club, coached by A.E.F. boxer Bob Hoffman, who's been training winning teams for twenty years. Chicago Defender

If you're interested in figures, here's what Johnny, a quiet, good-looking boy with a strong resemblance in looks and personality to another champ—Joe Louis, did in Paris. Sat. 4-26-47

In the press, he lifted 297½ pounds; in the snatch, 303¼ pounds, in the clean and jerk, 358¼ pounds—a total of 958 pounds! If the terms confuse you, they are merely methods of raising that much deadweight over your head and holding it there until the judges have had their look-see.



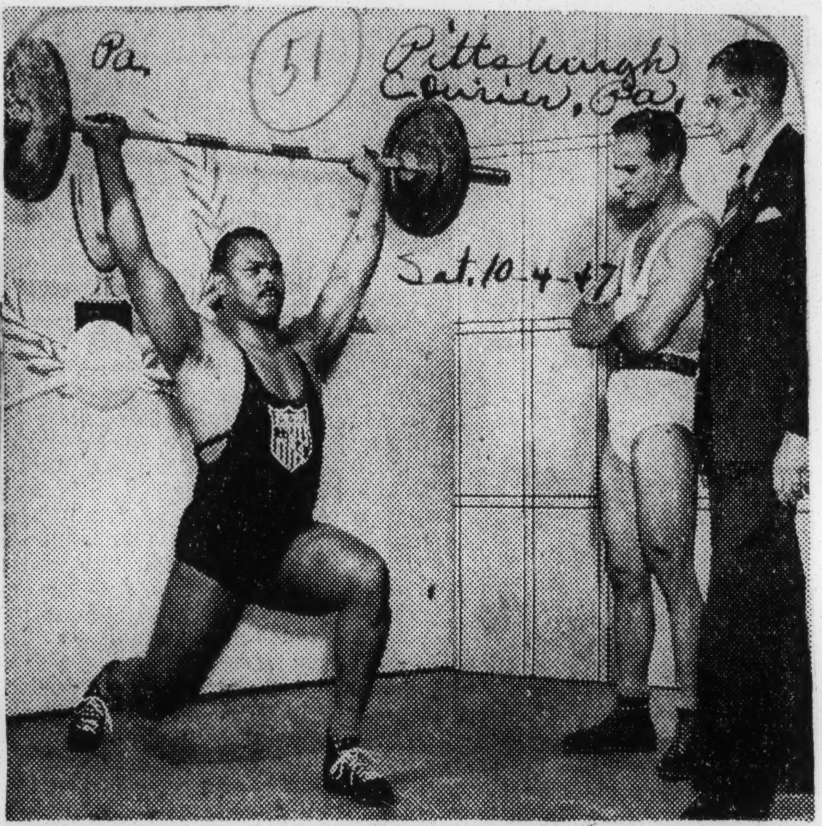
Not the Thinker—but thinking' about the '48 Olympics

Davis lifting 358¼ pounds to win title

Here he is—The Pride of the York Barbell Club

Sat. 4-26-47

With an Olympic meet in the offing, Hoffman—as well as the United States—is counting on the 25-year-old Davis to bring home the points in the strong-arm events.




**"STRONGEST MAN IN THE WORLD"**—Here you see the weight-lifting form that made John Davis, Brooklyn Negro, world's champion heavyweight weight-lifter. He is defending his title in the world's championships at Convention Hall in Philadelphia. Looking on while he tunes up are George Espeuto, British lightweight lifting champ, and John Barrs, coach of the British team. Davis, who is called "the strongest man in the world" will have to beat Vaclav Becvar of Czechoslovakia, who formerly held the title. Becvar spent four years in a Nazi concentration camp.—Photo by Mike Freeman.

51a 1947

RICHARD "RED" KINES

# Tops Fast Field At Thomaston Speedway

Atlanta Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

Wed. 8-20-47

Richard "Red" Kines, well-known Atlantan ran away from a fast field to win the feature event in the championship 80-lap Stock Car race, held Sunday afternoon, before more than 3,000 fans at the Thomaston Super Speedway, Thomaston, Ga.

Driving a '39 Ford' officially named the "Burger Special No. 1", Kines Jumped out in front from the start and was not seriously challenged until the 10th lap, when George Muckle winner of the first championship race made a bid for the lead, but was unable to pass Cal Williams, of Greer, S. C. who was trying to lap.

**SCOTT ATTEMPTS TO TAKE LEAD**

Kines continued to circle the half-mile track in near record time and maintained a comfortable lead until the last seven laps, when Charlie Scott attempted to come from behind to take the lead.

The championship race was originally schedules for 50 laps but due to the limited time was cut to 35 laps, by mutual agreement and at the finish Kines was in first place Charlie Scott; second George Muckle, third; Cal Willams, fourth; 'Slim' Blaylock fifth, and "Bill" Ealey, sixth.

The six cash prizes for this event were distributed as follows: first $300 second, $150; third $75; fourth $50; fifth, $40; and sixth; $25.

**MILLER AND SCOTT WIN OTHER EVENTS**

H. Miller and Charlie Scott stole the spotlinght in the first two events of 15-laps each, to walk off with $75 each. The order of the finish in these races were as follows: FIRST RACE: H. Miller; Richard "Red" Kines, second; George Muskle, third Cal Williams, fourth; 'Slim" Blaylock, fifth "Bully" Baker, sixth. SECOND RACE: Charlie Scott, first; George Muckle, second, Richard "Red" Kines, third; Cal Williams fourth; "Kid Caldonia, fifth; and "Bully" Baker' sixth.

In the second attraction. "Bully' Baker turned over on the fourth or fifth lap, but was uninjured and continued the race. Later in the day "Kid" Caldonia was blinded by the dust and ran off the track, through the fence ,but likewise got back in the race.

Kines who won $410 of the 1,200 purse is a native Atlantan. He is married and has a 10-year-old daughter. The new stock car champion is a graduate of Booker T. Washington High School where he was an outstanding football star, and continued his athletic career at Senaca Junior College in South Carolina. He resides at 179 Piedmont Avenue and works in the Special Delivery Department of the United States Post-Office.

Kins is now looking forward to competing for the 3,200 purse in the championship stock car races to be held at Daytona Beach, Florida, in September.

Acme

PITCHER BANKHEAD
*No incident.*

**No. 5**

Dan Bankhead had a fine old Southern name, a good fast ball and a fair curve. For the Memphis Red Sox in the Negro American League, he had won ten games against five losses. Branch Rickey personally scouted him and decided he could help the Dodgers.

Last week, in his Brooklyn debut, big (6 ft. 3 in.) Dan Bankhead, fifth Negro player to reach the majors, winged Pirate Outfielder Wally Westlake with a fast ball. A few breaths were tight-held—this might be the "incident" that many baseball men had feared. But Westlake trotted casually down to first. It was clear that, within the space of a single season, fans and players alike were beginning to take Negro players for granted.

Brooklyn's Jackie Robinson had done his part in the club's pennant drive, hitting .300 or a few points over or under and leading the league in stolen bases (25). Of the other four Negroes in the majors, the St. Louis Browns' Henry Thompson and Willard Brown had been released after a month's trial; Cleveland's Larry Doby was still hanging on, as a pretty impotent pinch hitter.

Whether or not Bankhead would bolster the Dodgers' sagging pitching staff might take some time to tell. In his $3\frac{1}{3}$-inning relief stint against the Pirates—on a day when Kiner & Co. really had their hitting shoes on—he gave up 10 hits and 8 runs. He couldn't ever do much worse than that, and he looked as though he could do quite a lot better. His batting, on the other hand, could not be improved on: his first time at bat, Bankhead fouled off several pitches, then banged a home run into the left field stands.

# Atwell Robinson Writes About Dan Bankhead

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. —(SNS) — (Editor's note: Atwell Robinson, formerly of Birmingham and dubbed "The Sage of Tittusville," writes the article below giving his reactions to Pitcher Dan Bankhead's debut with the Brooklyn Dodgers. Bankhead, a product of the local YMCA Industrial League, began his professional career with the Black Barons which sent forth Satchel Paige, Mule Suttles, Jerry Benjamin and others. Dan has a brother Sam, who plays with the Homestead Grays and another, Fred an infielder for the Memphis Red Sox. At his peak, Sam Bankhead could have made the majors had either the bars been down or his skin white. The writer lives in Jamaica, New York.)

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—(SNS)— You have to make a quick choice. . . The heat is threatening to break a 50 year record. . . Is it to be the beach or Ebbet Field. . . You're all puffed up over the excitement over Dan Bankhead of Empire, Ala. . . Home Bankhead. . . . What does that mean to you? Living in Queens. . . .next door to Brooklyn . . . Eating and sleeping the Dodgers. . . . Will they pitch Bankhead?. . . . Things are moving so fast you can't afford to miss . . . A suggestion and that 100 pounds of dynamite that you married is right on top of the play. . So its Ebbetts Field. ...You gas up and call your man Nat Baldwin and his fine Frau and you are off. .. In the excitement you forget to buy cigarettes. . . : but you don't care. . . . So out Atlantic Avenue and Eastern Parkway to Flatbush You park and watch the crowds filling in . . . 50 per cent Negro. . . Are they anticipating?. . Bankhead Home.. . . You note Shotten's choice of Hal Gregg against Powerhouse Pittsburgh. . . Kilner, Greenberg, Westlake, Gustine, Russel. . . You see Bankhead on the bench and you figure he's just there to watch and earn his dough. . .Gregg getting hit very hard in the first inning and you see Bankhead warming up in the Bullpin. . . You go slightly nuts maybe. . But somehow you hope Gregg gets knocked out. . You don't have to wait long. . . A walk and two hits does it. . .You watch Bankhead's long majestic strides from the bullpin. . . This is it History is being made. . . The first Negro pitcher in organized baseball You envy your wife,. . . The midget saw Jackie Robinson hit his first major league home run. . . You see Bankhead get pounded hard and you try to justify his efforts against the Pirates.

# Bankhead's Delivery Needs Hurrying Up, Experts Say

This is the pitching motion Dan Bankhead demonstrated in his pitching debut for the Dodgers Tuesday, a motion that Manager Burt Shotton of the Brooks says must be corrected before opponents take advantage of it to run wild on the bases. Bankhead's step, observers say, is too long, his delivery too slow

Bankhead nodded, with a twinkle in his eyes. "I might," he said, and the scribes chuckled in sympathy with his honesty.

Rickey was asked what big league pitcher, present or past, Bankhead reminded him of in his style. He pondered for a moment, then said, "With a couple more inches height, I'd think of Dizzy Dean." And wound up the conference with, "He's going to do plenty of pitching for Brooklyn."

Haugstead, who reports next Monday, is a 23-year-old fastballer rated a great prospect but a little wild. He has won 14 and lost 7 with the last place St. Paul team. 8-26-47 Tues.

Room for Bankhead on the Dodger roster was made by optioning George Dockins to Fort Worth.

Bankhead beats the August 31 deadline for eligibility to pitch in the World Series, if any, while Haugstead won't be eligible for the blue chip affair.

## Negro Out To Show Brooks He's Fastest In Baseball

51b

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Aug. 25. (AP) —Long, loose-jointed Dan Bankhead moved into baseball bigtime today eager for the chance to prove the tag tacked on him by many of his contemporaries in the Negro majors—that he is the fastest pitcher in baseball, black or white."

The 24-year-old Negro athlete made an overnight flight to Brooklyn shortly after it was announced that Dodger President Branch Rickey, following a personal looksee, had bought his contract from the Memphis Red Sox for "more than $10,000."

Bankhead had a conference scheduled this afternoon with Rickey and the Dodger head man hinted that afterwards he would disclose plans for the Negro hurler's immediate future.

Dr. B. B. Martin, owner of the Memphis Negro American League club, said Rickey told him that Bankhead may be in the Brooklyn lineup "within a week" — thus becoming the first Negro pitcher to crash the majors.

"Mr. Rickey is completely sold on Bankhead," Martin said. "He seen."

"He is a faster man than Satchel Paige, who is considered the greatest Negro pitcher of all time," Martin added, "and I know Paige well and have seen him pitch many times.

"Many of the high baseball men in the National and American Negro leagues have told me they consider Bankhead the fastest pitcher in baseball today, black or white."

Martin said he had seen Cleveland's Bob Feller cut loose and he believed Bankhead to be faster.

Bankhead is a rangy six-foot-three, 180-pound righthander who began his professional baseball career as a shortstop with the Birmingham Black Barons of the Negro American League in 1940.

# $10,000 Paid For Bankhead

The Journal and Guide

## Dodger President At Memphis As New Star Hurls Flawless Game

Norfolk, Va. Sat. 8-30-47

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Dan Bankhead, rangy right-hand hurler for the Memphis Red Sox became the first Negro to be signed to a pitching spot on a Major League team when President Branch Rickey of the Brooklyn Dodgers culminated negotiations for Bankhead's services here during the past week-end by paying a price of "over $10,000" for the services of the speedball artist who has hurled his team to ten victories while giving up four losses during the current season.

Bankhead, whose fast-ball has sat down 124 batters this season also leads the Negro American League in batting with a sizzling average of .385. He has been in the league for four years.

51b

The deal for Bankhead's services was personally supervised by Dodger President Rickey who flew into Memphis expressly to see him perform. Along with Brooklyn Scout, George Sisler, President Rickey saw Bankhead fan eleven players and walk five as he scored an easy victory in a league game Friday night.

**MORE PLAYERS SOUGHT**

The Journal and Guide

Rickey immediately stamped the hurler as "just what we want," took a six-day option, and then entered into the potent phases of the negotiations with General Manager George B. Martin of the Memphis nine. From the out-set, Manager Martin was "sure" that the Dodgers would purchase his star hurler, and said Rickey told him that he was "going to put Dan in the majors."

Norfolk, Va.

Obviously pleased with his new player, who he immediately put on a plane for Brooklyn, Rickey said, "We've got to get some pitchers and get them quick. Things have gotten so tough we don't even know who's going to pitch for us Monday." Sat. 8-30-47

"I'm out to strengthen the ball club any way I can," said Rickey. At the same time, he disclosed that he has a card file on all Negro players who have shown possibilities, and is currently on a swing around the country "looking them over." The Brooklyn president was obviously worried over the Dodger hurling staff, particularly Rookie Harry Taylor and his ailing arm.

51b

**BANKHEAD STAR HURLER**

In signing Bankhead, President Rickey, who smashed a precedent when he signed Jackie Robinson two seasons ago, sewed up the services of one of the most able hurlers in Negro baseball.

Bankhead has once hurled for the Birmingham Black Barons and gained national fame by handling hurling chores for the U. S. Marine team from Montford Point at Camp Lejeune, N. C. Journal and Guide

Though officially listed as a swimming instructor at the Carolina base, Bankhead became the most noted pitcher in the corps. During the 1944 season, he hurled three no-hit, no-run games for the service nine, and muffed his record only when defeated by the Southern All Stars.

**HURLS PERFECT GAME**

During the same season hurling for the N. C. All-Stars in an inter-state classic, Bankhead pitched a perfect game defeating the S. C. All-Stars by a 1-0 count. Norfolk, Va.

He struck out 24 men, including the first fifteen to face him and issued no walks. In addition, he starred at bat by tallying the lone North Carolina run. Sat. 8-30-47

There is a definite possibility that Bankhead may see action in the World Series if the Dodgers continue their winning ways.

Rickey, who spent the night in Fort Worth, Tex., was not due in Brooklyn until Tuesday, but a Dodger spokesman said the club would have to make room for Bankhead on the roster. To do this, the club must get waivers on the players released, a process which takes forty-eight hours.

# Negro Mound Ace Joins Dodgers, May Pitch at Ebbets Field Today

New York Times 8-26-47 Tues. N.Y.

## Bankhead, Purchased From Memphis Team, Tells Sports Writers He Is 'Lucky to Get a Chance' With League Leaders

51b

Dan Bankhead, 26-year-old Negro righthanded pitcher, officially became a Dodger yesterday when President Branch Rickey confirmed news of his purchase from the Memphis Red Sox, signed him to a contract and announced that he would be in uniform at Ebbets Field today.

Manager Burt Shotton refused to say whether he would start Bankhead today. However, it is considered a logical spot since the Dodger pilot does not want to start a lefthander against the Pirates and he has no other righthander ready.

If Shotton doesn't start Bankhead today, it is generally believed that the Negro star probably will not see action for a week or ten days. 8-26-47 Tues.

**Buying St. Paul Hurler**

At the same time the Mahatma revealed that he would complete the acquisition of Phil Haugstad from the St. Paul club within a few days and expected to have this righthanded pitcher in a Dodger uniform next Monday.

"Bankhead has a great future as a pitcher in the major leagues," said Rickey. "I don't know how soon, but he has a great fast ball with a change and a sharp curve, also with a change. He may be a bit nervous—I'm afraid he will be," added Rickey.

The Negro pitcher appeared and was introduced to the press, who had gathered for an after-game conference with Rickey in his Ebbets Field office. Dan is six feet one inch tall and weighs 185 pounds.

He is a soft-spoken chap, apparently a bit shy, but answered questions readily. He admitted that he "might be a little nervous" but that he felt himself "lucky to get a chance" with a team that is fighting for a pennant.

A native of Birmingham, Ala., he attended St. Mark's Industrial High School there. He spent three years—1942 to '45—in the U. S. Marine Corps, most of the time at Camp Lejeune, N. C., where he was a sergeant and did most of the pitching for the Negro team in a camp league of thirteen clubs, the others being white.

"We won the championship two seasons," said Dan.

His record with the Memphis Red Sox, which is in the Negro American League, was 11 won and five lost, with 124 strikeouts, which exceeded the number of innings pitched. He is married and has a small daughter.

Asked what the cash consideration was, Rickey replied: "I satisfied 'em plenty."

But Branch refused to say how much "plenty" is.

Haugstad is 23 years old, six feet two inches tall and weighs 180 pounds. With a seventh place club Phil has won 14 and lost seven, struck out 130, allowed 191 hits and 109 bases on balls in 211 innings. 8-26-47 Tues.

**Dockins Sent to Texas**

"He, too, has a tremendous fast ball," said Rickey, "but he lacks experience, as this is only his second season in professional baseball."

To clear the roster for Bankhead, Rickey has sent George Dockins, southpaw pitcher, to Ft. Worth. George left yesterday evening for his new club. When Haugstad arrives on Sept. 1 no further cuts on the club will be necessary, since that is the date on which all clubs may increase their personnel.

## The Bankhead Saga—A New Era In Sports

Journal and Guide 51b

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51b 1947

Dan Bankhead

Bankhead nodded, with a twinkle in his eyes. "I might," he said, and the scribes chuckled in sympathy with his honesty.

Rickey was asked what big league pitcher, present or past, Bankhead reminded him of in his style. He pondered for a moment, then said, "With a couple more inches height, I'd think of Dizzy Dean." And wound up the conference with, "He's going to do plenty of pitching for Brooklyn."

Haugstead, who reports next Monday, is a 23-year-old fastballer rated a great prospect but a little wild. He has won 14 and lost 7 with the last place St. Paul team. 8-26-47 Tues.

Room for Bankhead on the Dodger roster was made by optioning George Dockins to Fort Worth.

Bankhead beats the August 31 deadline for eligibility to pitch in the World Series, if any, while Haugstead won't be eligible for the blue chip affair.

# Negro Out To Show Brooks He's Fastest In Baseball

51b

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Aug. 25. (AP) —Long, loose-jointed Dan Bankhead moved into baseball bigtime today eager for the chance to prove the tag tacked on him by many of his contemporaries in the Negro majors—that he is the fastest pitcher in baseball, black or white."

The 24-year-old Negro athlete made an overnight flight to Brooklyn shortly after it was announced that Dodger President Branch Rickey, following a personal look-see, had bought his contract from the Memphis Red Sox for "more than $10,000."

Bankhead had a conference scheduled this afternoon with Rickey and the Dodger head man hinted that afterwards he would disclose plans for the Negro hurler's immediate future.

Dr. B. B. Martin, owner of the Memphis Negro American League club, said Rickey told him that Bankhead may be in the Brooklyn lineup "within a week" — thus becoming the first Negro pitcher to crash the majors.

"Mr. Rickey is completely sold on Bankhead," Martin said. "He [has] seen.

"He is a faster man than Satchel Paige, who is considered the greatest Negro pitcher of all time," Martin added, "and I know Paige well and have seen him pitch many times.

"Many of the high baseball men [in the] National and American Negro leagues have told me they consider Bankhead the fastest pitcher in baseball today, black or white."

Martin said he had seen Cleveland's Bob Feller cut loose and he believed Bankhead to be faster.

Bankhead is a rangy six-foot-three, 180-pound righthander who began his professional baseball career as a shortstop with the Birmingham Black Barons of the Negro American League in 1940.

# $10,000 Paid For Bankhead

51b

The Journal and Guide

## Dodger President At Memphis As New Star Hurls Flawless Game

Norfolk, Va. Sat. 8-30-47

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Dan Bankhead, rangy right-hand hurler for the Memphis Red Sox became the first Negro to be signed to a pitching spot on a Major League team when President Branch Rickey of the Brooklyn Dodgers culminated negotiations for Bankhead's services here during the past week-end by paying a price of "over $10,000" for the services of the speedball artist who has hurled his team to ten victories while giving up four losses during the current season.

Bankhead, whose fast-ball has sat down 124 batters this season also leads the Negro American League in batting with a sizzling average of .385. He has been in the league for four years.

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The deal for Bankhead's services was personally supervised by Dodger President Rickey who flew into Memphis expressly to see him perform. Along with Brooklyn Scout, George Sisler, President Rickey saw Bankhead fan eleven players and walk five as he scored an easy victory in a league game Friday night.

**MORE PLAYERS SOUGHT**

The Journal and Guide

Rickey immediately stamped the hurler as "just what we want," took a six-day option, and then entered into the potent phases of the negotiations with General Manager George B. Martin of the Memphis nine. From the out-set, Manager Martin was "sure" that the Dodgers would purchase his star hurler, and said Rickey told him that he was "going to put Dan in the majors." Norfolk, Va.

Obviously pleased with his new player, who he immediately put on a plane for Brooklyn, Rickey said, "We've got to get some pitchers and get them quick. Things have gotten so tough we don't even know who's going to pitch for us Monday." Sat. 8-30-47

"I'm out to strengthen the ball club any way I can," said Rickey. At the same time, he disclosed that he has a card file on all Negro players who have shown possibilities, and is currently on a swing around the country "looking them over." The Brooklyn president was obviously worried over the Dodger hurling staff, particularly Rookie Harry Taylor and his ailing arm.

**BANKHEAD STAR HURLER**

51b

In signing Bankhead, President Rickey, who smashed a precedent when he signed Jackie Robinson two seasons ago, sewed up the services of one of the most able hurlers in Negro baseball.

Bankhead has once hurled for the Birmingham Black Barons and gained national fame by handling hurling chores for the U. S. Marine team from Montford Point at Camp Lejeune, N. C. Journal and Guide

Though officially listed as a swimming instructor at the Carolina base, Bankhead became the most noted pitcher in the corps. During the 1944 season, he hurled three no-hit, no-run games for the service nine, and muffed his record only when defeated by the Southern All Stars.

**HURLS PERFECT GAME**

During the same season hurling for the N. C. All-Stars in an inter-state classic, Bankhead pitched a perfect game defeating the S. C. All-Stars by a 1-0 count. Norfolk, Va.

He struck out 24 men, including the first fifteen to face him and issued no walks. In addition, he starred at bat by tallying the lone North Carolina run. Sat. 8-30-47

There is a definite possibility that Bankhead may see action in the World Series if the Dodgers continue their winning ways.

Rickey, who spent the night in Fort Worth, Tex., was not due in Brooklyn until Tuesday, but a Dodger spokesman said the club would have to make room for Bankhead on the roster. To do this, the club must get waivers on the players released, a process which takes forty-eight hours.

# Negro Mound Ace Joins Dodgers, May Pitch at Ebbets Field Today

New York Times 8-26-47 Tues. N.Y.

## Bankhead, Purchased From Memphis Team, Tells Sports Writers He Is 'Lucky to Get a Chance' With League Leaders

51b

Dan Bankhead, 26-year-old Negro righthanded pitcher, officially became a Dodger yesterday when President Branch Rickey confirmed news of his purchase from the Memphis Red Sox, signed him to a contract and announced that he would be in uniform at Ebbets Field today.

Manager Burt Shotton refused to say whether he would start Bankhead today. However, it is considered a logical spot since the Dodger pilot does not want to start a lefthander against the Pirates and he has no other righthander ready.

If Shotton doesn't start Bankhead today, it is generally believed that the Negro star probably will not see action for a week or ten days. 8-26-47 Tues.

**Buying St. Paul Hurler**

At the same time the Mahatma revealed that he would complete the acquisition of Phil Haugstad from the St. Paul club within a few days and expected to have this righthanded pitcher in a Dodger uniform next Monday.

"Bankhead has a great future as a pitcher in the major leagues," said Rickey. "I don't know how soon, but he has a great fast ball with a change and a sharp curve; also with a change. He may be a bit nervous—I'm afraid he will be," added Rickey.

The Negro pitcher appeared and was introduced to the press, who had gathered for an after-game conference with Rickey in his Ebbets Field office. Dan is six feet one inch tall and weighs 185 pounds.

He is a soft-spoken chap, apparently a bit shy, but answered questions readily. He admitted that he "might be a little nervous" but that he felt himself "lucky to get a chance" with a team that is fighting for a pennant.

A native of Birmingham, Ala., he attended St. Mark's Industrial High School there. He spent three years—1942 to '45—in the U. S. Marine Corps, most of the time at Camp Lejeune, N. C., where he was a sergeant and did most of the pitching for the Negro team in a camp league of thirteen clubs, the others being white.

"We won the championship two seasons," said Dan.

His record with the Memphis Red Sox, which is in the Negro American League, was 11 won and five lost, with 124 strikeouts, which exceeded the number of innings pitched. He is married and has a small daughter.

Asked what the cash consideration was, Rickey replied:

"I satisfied 'em plenty."

But Branch refused to say how much "plenty" is.

Haugstad is 23 years old, six feet two inches tall and weighs 180 pounds. With a seventh place club Phil has won 14 and lost seven, struck out 130, allowed 191 hits and 109 bases on balls in 211 innings. 8-26-47 Tues.

**Dockins Sent to Texas**

"He, too, has a tremendous fast ball," said Rickey, "but he lacks experience, as this is only his second season in professional baseball."

To clear the roster for Bankhead, Rickey has sent George Dockins, southpaw pitcher, to Ft. Worth. George left yesterday evening for his new club. When Haugstad arrives on Sept. 1 no further cuts on the club will be necessary, since that is the date on which all clubs may increase their personnel.

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Scouts "looked over" players in the minor leagues, traveled the length and breadth of the country gathering data on sand-lot players and went on extended tours into Central and South America and into the Caribbean Islands, and yet failed to unearth one prospect until they reverted to the

source that President RICKEY had found "promising"—the Negro leagues.

Urged by a wire from Scout GEORGE SISLER of the Dodger field squad President RICKEY emplaned for Memphis, watched DAN BANKHEAD in action against a Negro American League team, and labeled him "just what we want." This expression not only decided the future for DAN BANKHEAD, but also gave indication of the brilliant future that Negro baseball will henceforth enjoy. 9-6-47 Sat.

JACKIE ROBINSON'S "Open Sesame" to Major League baseball for the Negro followed by the subsequent signing of other race players and climaxed by the signing of DAN BANKHEAD, the first Negro pitcher to the Majors, foretells a new day in the sphere of American sports, and serves as an indication that ability—not race, creed or color—shall henceforth be the index to attainment in the Great American Sport.

## AL MOSES WRITES:

# Dan Bankhead Met Acid Test in Brooklyn Debut

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

By ALVIN MOSES

NEW YORK (ANP) — Branch Rickey, perhaps baseball's most astute judge of diamond material, doesn't think Danny Bankhead is a "Big Bum." He thinks Bankhead is a "Bum" all right (that being the title of his Brooklyn Dodgers) but not in the sense the word generally implies. 9-13-47

Who hasn't heard by now that the ex-Memphis Red Sox twirler gave up eight runs and 10 hits to the battering ram Pittsburgh Pirates in less than four innings, the memorable afternoon of Aug. 27 on the Dodgers' home field? Well, I say that Bankhead, making the long-jump to blue-printed and almost foolproof big league baseball, did a fairly neat job.

**Pirates Had Remarkable Day**

Incomparable Bob Feller, Cleveland Indians superman, would undoubtedly have been hard pressed to fool the clouting Pittsburgers. Kiner, Gustine, Westlake, Cox, Klutz, and even Pitcher Ostermuller in the swatting mood they showed me, would have knocked out base hits against any pitcher who ever toiled.

Chalk it down as a remarkable day for the seventh-place Pirates, and a most trying day for any pitcher's big league debut.

In the game Bankhead was able to retire but one man of the seven he faced in the fifth inning that saw Pittsburgh bat seven runners across the platter. He did, however, give the 24,069 fans a thrill they'll not soon forget when it came to his turn to bat.

That was in the second inning, the point that saw Bankhead take over pitching chores after Hal (Rocky) Gregg had given up seven markers. Stepping into an Ostermuller pitch, he whaled the ball deep into the left field seats scoring a teammate ahead of him.

In accomplishing this in his first time at bat, Bankhead set a precedent for pitchers. Other players have done this before, but they were not pitchers, such as: Dixie Walker, Ike Boone, Al Lopez, Yogi Berra, Buddy Kerr, Earl Averill Clyde Vollmer, Wilfred LeFevre and Whitey Lockman. Sat.

**After The Ball Was Over**

And so, the first pitcher to perform in the majors had made history one way or the other. The 27-year-old pitcher who boasts a .385 batting average, brought out utterances in the fair-minded white press clubs we screened: Michael Gaven, N.Y. Journal scribe, stated: "Dan Bankhead has the fast ball, curve, control and courage necessary to become an outstanding pitcher in the major leagues.

"But the lack of deception, poise and general pitching technique will prevent him from lending much help to the Dodgers in their pennant fight. A semester in a Rickey baseball school might make him a 12- or 15-game winner in the Majors, but there isn't enough time left of the 1947 season for such tutoring."

According to this same writer whose printed words appeared the day after Bankhead's debut, Branch Rickey told him this: . . . "He didn't surprise me one bit. I was particularly afraid of his change of pace. We'll have to work on that. He might even need a year in the minors, but the fact that he was hit hard hasn't changed my opinion of him one iota. I still think he's a great prospect."

# Describes His Emotions As Team's Fortunes Rise, Fall

Chicago Defender, Chicago, Ill. Sat 10-11-47

By DAN BANKHEAD
(Defender Exclusive)

**Somebody asked me the other day if I had ever expected to make the World Series. I told him, "Well, yes, because when I made the Dodgers, I knew it was a championship team. After I'd been around, I knew the players felt they would be a world's champion contender."**

Of course, it was the biggest thrill in my life to be in a series. I never expected to see one—not while I was young anyway. (Editor's note: Pitcher Bankhead is all of 26 years.)

The way, it affects me—it's quite a tense thing. As the game goes along, the feeling varies. Different plays make you have different feelings. Some make you relax, but if one's in favor of the other team, it tightens you up.

Down in the dugout the fellows are talking about the different plays. They say how each play should have been made. If it's the wrong play for us, their feathers fall, or rather our feathers fall—as mine do, too. Sat. 10-11-47

Some times the things they say about plays are funny but baseball players have a way of expressing themselves so that I can't repeat them in a newspaper. (Ed.'s note: Especially in a family newspaper).

One thing I think is funny is the different ways of jockeying players. If the fellows know about another player owing money, they holler that out in order to get his mind off his game.

The players in the majors show their enthusiasm in a different way, too, from the leagues I've known. If a fellow makes a good play, the fellows hug and kiss him like long lost friends. They even got me into the habit now.

And when we win, like that third series game, there's a lot of joking and horseplay—the fellows congratulating each other. It took that game to get back the old fighting spirit. After two losses, the team had lost some of its spirit, but when we got back to home grounds, it all came back. Defender

As for me, I was told to be ready all the time. The manager asked me if I would be in case he had to use me. I said "sure." Chicago

My wife's been here for the past two weeks. She seems to be getting as big a kick out of it as I am

I plan to do a little barnstorming now for the next two weeks with an all-star team, maybe a couple of theatre appearances, too. I'm not sure of it all yet. Ill.

It's kind of hard to think of other things when you've been down in the dugout where baseball is the only thing in the world.

# Dan Bankhead Ordered Back To Dodgers

Daily World, Atlanta, Ga. Sun. 11-9-47

MEMPHIS, Tenn.— (SNS)— Dan Bankhead, ex-Memphis Red Sox pitching star, who found nationwide prominence, as the first Negro major league pitcher, revealed here Saturday, that he had received orders to report back to the Brooklyn Dodgers "for Spring training anyhow." 11-9-47

Bankhead joined the Dodgers last August after Brooklyn President Branch Rickey saw him pitch an American League game here. Beale Street immediately acclaimed him as its "Gift To Baseball," although the cheering was halted when Bankhead fared badly in his rare pitching outings with the Dodgers. The Dodgers reportedly asked waivers on him just before the World Series.

None of the clubs bid for the sepia pitching star so he went into the World series during one game as a pinch runner and scored.

Bankhead said the trouble was "poor physical condition" although he had been pitching all season in the Negro American League.

"I want to get back with them and make up for my showing. Everyone treated me swell," declared Dan.

Bankhead is going on a two month hunting trip in Texas. "That will help whip me in shape" he said. "Then I'll practice until I report to the Dodgers for Spring Training in Puerto Rico.

"I don't care whether Mr. Rickey makes me a pitcher or a bat boy, I just want to be with he Dodgers."

# Bankhead Knocked Out in First Dodger Game

*Baltimore, Md.* *Sat. 9-6-47* *(51b)*

## Is First of His Race to Pitch For Major League Club, Hits Home Run

By SAM LACY

BROOKLYN — A typical Flatbush crowd of 24,069 customers was in the witness box Tuesday as the Brooklyn Dodgers turned another page of baseball history.

Dan Bankhead, the first of his race to pitch in a major league game, toed the slab against the Pittsburgh Pirates. And, while his bow was anything but auspicious, it was, nevertheless, nothing to shame him.

The 26-year-old former Memphis Red Sox righthander was sent in by Manager Burt Shotton to relieve Hal Gregg, veteran Bum flinger, when the latter proved unequal to the task of retiring a single batter in the second inning.

The Bucs had previously tallied four times in the first and put two men on base to open the second, when Shotton gave Bankhead the "come on." *Sat. 9-6-47*

**Had Just Arrived**

Dan, who had joined the club only 24 hours earlier, and was seeing hish first stint of major league ball, permitted four more alien runs to cross the plate before getting the side out. Two of these, however, were charged to Gregg.

The speed-ball artist put the Pirates down in order in the third and retired them without a run in the fourth, though they loaded the bases in that frame.

With two down, Ralph Kiner, the league's runner-up in home-run socks, and Frankie Gustine, who leads the loop in number of hits, obtained singles. Wally Westlake got a lift by being hit by a pitched ball to put three men on.

Bankhead then forced Rickard to send up a weak pop and Johnny Bloodworth to roll to Miksis.

A touch of nervousness seized Bankhead in the fifth, and he had trouble with his control. Getting "behind" the batter in balls, he frequently had to groove his fast one to the great satisfaction of the visitors.

Six lusty hits rained off his delivery in this inning and Shotton was compelled to seek refuge in the work of Rex Barney.

Neither Shotton nor Branch Rickey appeared discouraged by Bankhead's performance. The former said he had "several bad breaks" and called attention to the fact the Bucs were on one of their "hitting days."

Rickey, who purchased Dan from B. B. Martin, Memphis dentist and owner of the Red Sox, opined:

"It didn't surprise me. The boy's actually in a tougher spot than Jackie Robinson. He 's had no chance to adjust himself and his part in the game, as a pitcher, requires long study of battters and a thorough orientation process. He'll be all right."

**Slams for Circuit**

Although Bankhead showed nothing spectacular as a pitcher, he joined the select few of rookies who belted home-runs on their first time at bat in the majors.

Meeting one of Fritz Ostermuller's southpaw slants squarely on the nose in the second, Bankhead sent a screaming drive into the leftfield stands for a homer to score Stan Rojek ahead of him. He thus accounted for two of the Dodgers' three runs on his only trip at bat. *Sat. 9-6-47*

Bankhead expressed confidence in his ability to make good. He told the AFRO, "I think I'll be okay as soon as this newness wears off. Today it seemed like I was wearing a new glove, new shoes, new hat, everything seemed tight. I guess I was kinda scared. I'll be all right the next time, though.

Jackie Robinson, who showed definite signs of fatigue, committed two errors afield in the hectic afternoon and went without a hit, the first time he has done so in the past six games.

"I'm sure sorry I couldn't be of greater help to Dan," said the star first baseman. "But he looks like he'll be with us for a while, so I'll try to make up for it."

Robinson is the only Dodger player who has not missed a game this season and the strain has begun to how.

# Bankhead Homers In Major League Debut; Shelled From Mound

*Atlanta Daily World* *Atlanta, Ga.* *Wed. 8-27-47*

BROOKLYN, N. Y. (SNS)— Dan Bankhead, former crack hurler of the Memphis Red Sox hammered out a two-run homer in his debut in the major league, but was shelled from the mound as the Pittsburgh Pirates turned back the Brooklyn Dodgers, 16-3 Tuesday before 24,069 fans at Ebbets Field.

Bankhead replaced Hal Gregg on the mound after the Pirates had tallied four runs and had runners on first and second. He was later relieved on the mound by Barney, after the Pirates scored seven runs in the fifth. *Wed. 8-23-47*

The former Memphis sensation was the first Negro to pitch in the majors and he received an ovation from the crowd.

# The Bums Look At Bankhead

*Afro-American* *Baltimore, Md.* *(51b)*

BROOKLYN—Opinion was divided here Wednesday on the capabilities of Dan Bankhead, 26-year-old rookie righthander obtained Monday by the Brooklyn Dodgers on purchase from the Memphis Red Sox of the Negro American League. *Sat. 9-6-47*

Dan, brother of Sam Bankhead of the Homestead Grays and three other baseball-playing brothers, got his first taste of a major league pitching assignment on Tuesday afternoon against the Pittsburgh Pirates. He had joined the club only 24 hours before and was belted freely in the 16-3 loss.

**Manager Burt Shotton held that he felt no real alarm over Bankhead's immediate failure. "As my mother used to say, 'one swallow doesn't make a summer.' I want to see more of him before I try to judge. He has some good points and some bad."**

Bruce Edwards, regular Dodger catcher, said: "He has a fine curveball, the quick one. His change-up needs a lot of work for control, and his fast one wasn't anything like what I expected after hearing so much about it. But his fast curve is very good."

**Bobby Bragan, No. 2 catcher, who caught Bankhead while he was warming up to relieve Hal Gregg: "He's got a lot of stuff on the ball, a lot of good stuff."**

Clyde Sukeforth, coach and himself a catcher before becoming inactive, asserted: "It is rather hard to say what he'll do as yet. I think he needs mero time and a better chance. That was certainly a bad spot to go in, and on his first day up, too."

**Sukeforth spent 45 minutes in the bullpen with Bankhead before the Wednesday game, coaching him on covering his pitches, stance and stride. He also offered numerous tips which he thought would improve the effectiveness of Dan's change-up.** *Sat. 9-6-47*

**Jackie Robinson was of the opinion that Bankhead will do better under different circumstances. "The Bucs would have hit anybody on Tuesday, so Bankhead didn't suffer in comparision with any other pitcher we sent in there that day. I do think he needs to work on keeping runners on the bases, though. They took advantage of him and ran almost at will. But then again, that was a game in which everything was happening."**

Consensus of opinion among other members of the club was that Bankhead will improve with coaching. "As I saw it," one veteran infielder declared, " he was telegraphing everything he threw. That was his chief trouble. Why, we called every pitch from the bench. I guess the Pirates did, too."

As the AFRO saw it, Bankhead's performance was certainly no worse than that of Hal Greeg, who preceded Dan, or Hank Behrman, who succeeded him.

The ex-marine displayed a good fast ball but was perceptibly green. His faults overbalanced his assets, yet there was nothing a little seasoning won't correct. Whether or not Bankhead can cure the Blums' pitching ills this years is problematical. But then, what minor leaguer could do that?
—SAM LACY.

# Just One of Those Days, Bankhead Says as Bucs Ruin Big League Debut

*P. M.* *New York, N.Y.* *Wed. 8-27-47* *(51b)*

By HEYWOOD HALE BROUN

Dan Bankhead's debut as a pitcher was not entirely an auspicious one, but he won a place in Brooklyn hearts by hitting a home run in his first and only time at bat yesterday.

The 27,069 fans, 30C0 of them knothole kids, were with the new Dodger all the way. They cheered him when he came in to replace Hal Gregg in the second inning of yesterday's Pirate victory. They roared when his first pitch to Jim Russell was a swinging strike, and groaned when Russell doubled. Bankhead gave up three hits in that inning as the Pirates added four runs to the four they had made in the first and got a winging start towards their 16-3 win.

Displaying good stuff, Dan got through the third and fourth scorelessly although the Pirates loaded the bases in the fourth. *Wed. 8-27-47*

It was in the second inning that he hit his homer after fouling off several of Fritz Ostermueller's pitches. The ball sailed into the lower left field stands and Stan Rojek, who had walked, scored ahead of Bankhead. This hit brought an ovation and there was a friendly hand for the newcomer when he left in the fifth.

Dan twice struck out Russell, who had made the first hit off him, but he had trouble with the other Pirates in the fifth and gave way to Rex Barney, who also took a slight rapping as the Pirates piled up seven runs in this frame. All told, Bankhead gave up 10 hits in 3-1/3 innings, but he was undiscouraged by this. *Wed. 8-27-47*

"It was just one of those days," he said in the dressing room. "I'll get back [illegible]t 'em."

It was also revealed that he has been doing an iron man job with the Memphis Red Sox and is a little below his best weight.

The Dodger staff gave up 36 hits and 26 runs to the Pirates in the last two games and managed a split, not too bad an outcome. They were cheered by the news that Phil Haugstad, who'll join them next week, pitched a two-hitter Monday night for St. Paul.

Despite his poor start, the newest addition to the Dodger staff impressed observers. He showed a good fast ball and curve, although Dodger officials who scouted him said that he was not at his fastest. He was ahead of the batter consistently, and on what he showed, should improve next time out.

# Jackie's Series Money Is $4,081; Bankhead's $300

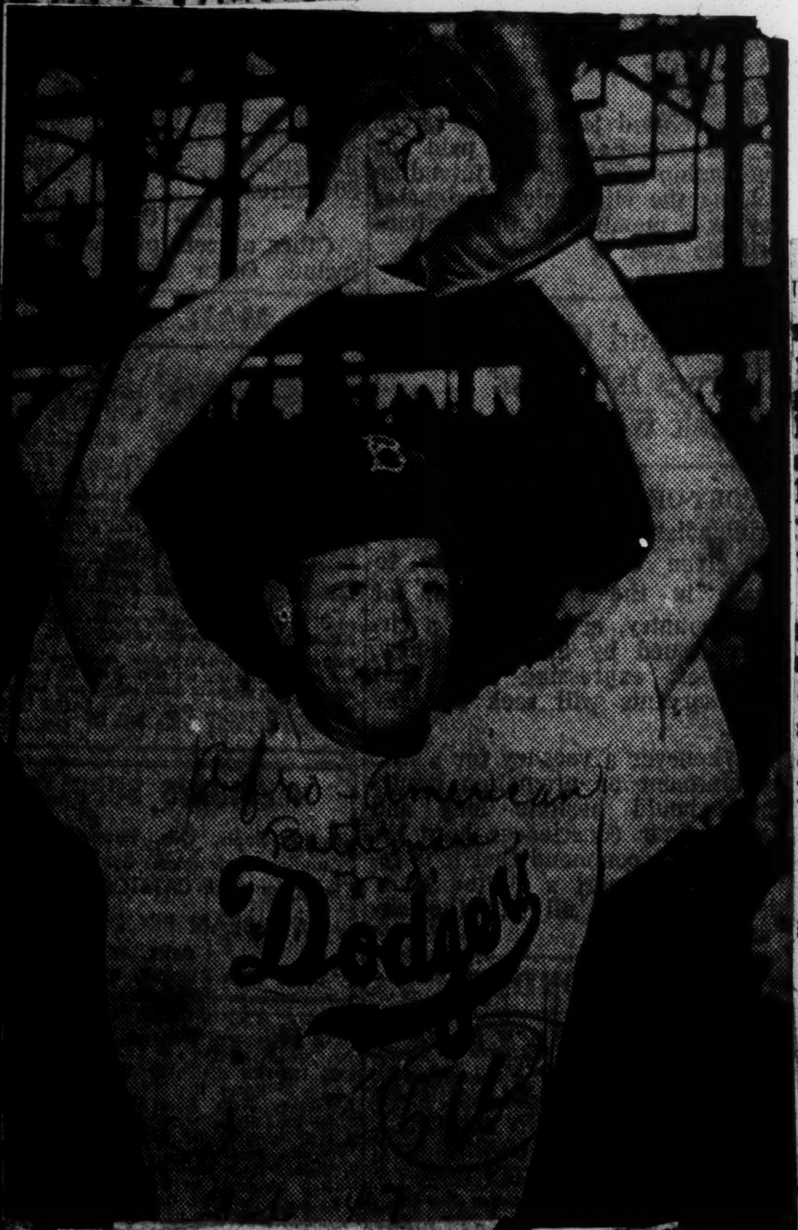
*Defender* *Chicago, Ill.* *Sat. 11-1-47* *(51b)*

CINCINNATI — Jackie Robinson and 31 other Brooklyn Dodger regulars will receive $4,081.18 for their share of the Brooklyn club's world series players money. The winning New York Yankees, voted full shares of $4,372.52 to 27.

Dan Bankhead, secured by the Dodgers from the Memphis Red Sox of the Negro American League, two days before the dead line, and three others were voted $300 each.

**WILL HE, WON'T HE?**—Biggest question in baseball today is whether or not Dan Bankhead, former Memphis Red Sox hurler, will be able to help the Brooklyn Dodgers in their race for the National League pennant. The 26-year-old righthander, shoved into the lineup his first day in uniform, was roughly handled by Chicago Cub batters in a 16-3 loss by the Dodgers. He hit a home-run his first time at bat, however, accounted for two of his team's three tallies.

*Afro-American*



# FROM A TO Z

## With SAM LACY

*Afro-American 51K Baltimore, Md. Sat. 9-6-47*

WASHINGTON

Dan Bankhead's home-run on his first major league batting turn gave him an automatic membership in the distinguished society of others who did the same: Dixie Walker, Ike Boone, Al Lopez, Yogi Berra, Buddy Kerr, Whitey Lockman, Earl Averill, Clyde Vollmer and Wilfred Lefevre . . . Burt Shotton, other reports to the contrary, actually did not plan to use Bankhead so soon. He elected Hal Gregg over Hank Behrman because the latter is better as relief pitcher, but when the Pirates got to Gregg so quickly, Shotton figured time was ripe for experiment with Dan.

Jackie Robinson was sorry Bankhead offered alibi for his first day's showing, stating "He should let the older fellows 'explain' and save his own excuse for sometime when he may need it" . . . Jackie, incidentally, wasted a possible inside-park homer when he slammed his triple in 11-10 win over Pittsburgh. He jogged to first while watching flight of ball. When it hit the wall, he turned on juice, got well past third before turning back in face of Bucs' relay to the plate. *Sat. 9-6-47*

Dodger officials were cognizant of the fact that Dan Bankhead took a terrific workout from photographers and newshounds before the game Tuesday, felt that he deserved a better break than he got . . . Manager Billy Herman of the Bucs asserted: "He's not very good, hardly a Feller." . . . They're planning a "day" for Jackie Robinson at Ebbets Field, Aug. 23rd . . . The Bums, up to and including Sunday, had drawn 1,589,265 paid customers during their 1947 home season . . . Nashua daily sports scribe says Don Newcombe spoiled his chance of getting the job given Dan Bankhead by walking seven men on day Branch Rickey had set aside to watch him work against league-leading Lynn Red Sox.

## BRANCH RICKEY AGAIN

*St. Louis, Mo., Argus 51K*

**Again we** doff our hat to Branch Rickey, that BIG **man in the** baseball world in this country, who stands in the **fore front** keeping the door of opportunity open to **Negro players** who aspire for recognition in the major baseball **leagues.** This position on the part of Mr. Rickey is right and **as it should be,** but because there are so few men in positions **like that** held by Mr. Rickey who are big enough to **see values in** men without being influenced by racial prejudices **we can't** but hold him up as a hero. *Fri. 8-29-47*

**This week** to our satisfaction has come the announce**ment that** Daniel Bankhead, a 26 year old Negro, has been **added to the** Brooklyn Dodgers pitching staff. Bankhead re**ceived this** appointment after Mr. Rickey had seen him in **action with the** Memphis Red Soxs. Thus, Bankhead has the **direct** personal stamp of approval as a pitcher from Rickey himself. Of course his stay in the major league will be determined by his ability to make good, for after all, baseball though an American passtime is a business proposition and the management is looking for persons who can deliver the goods.

**Meanwhile,** during the week, news reaches us that Brown and Thompson, formerly attached to the St. Louis Brown baseball club, have been released, it being understood that the sepia players failed to live up to the expectations and requirements of the Brown management. We understand that the Browns' management already has an option on another Negro player who is now with the Cloversville-Johnson, N. Y. club of the Canadian American League. There is a possibility of both Thompson and Brown or at least one of them being sent to the St. Louis Browns training camp this winter.

## Another Viewpoint

*51K Afro-American*

The fine old southern name of Bankhead hit the headlines yesterday, and let no reader complain that he wasn't offered both sides of the story.

"Doubt Bankhead Will Benefit Dodgers," one banner line mourned. *Baltimore, Md.*

"Dodger Bosses Sure Bankhead Will Make Grade," insisted a delegate from the stiff-upper-lip school. *Sat. 9-6-47*

"Doubt Bankhead Will Help Dodgers in Pennant Drive," came a two-column echo of gloom.

"Bankhead's Failure in Bow Discounted," was the cautious report in another sheet.

The impluse is to inquire, "What expert do you read?" and let it go at that. But that would be shooting a sitting bird. By any rule of journalism, the first major-league appearance of a Negro pitcher had to be the sports story of the day. And it was the job of the guys penned up over there in Ebbets Stockade to report the facts and draw therefrom such conclusions as were possible. The fact that they found it impossible to reach a unanimous verdict only reflects the fact that it is impossible to rate any ball player off a single effort.

The notion here is that Dan Bankhead got scarcely any of the best of it when it came to selecting a spot for his unveiling. To be sure, the Pirates have struck very few rivals dumb with terror this summer, but they do have some guys who can prod a pitch cruelly when they're in the mood, and lately the Pittsburgh hitters have been burning with a clear blue flame.

**Unsafe for Rookies**

Their bats were bright with gore when they moved from the Polo Grounds to Broklyn. They inflicted cruel and unusual punishment upon Clyde King on Monday. They were tearing the flesh of Hal Gregg before Bankhead was flung to them, and when they were through with him they leaped joyously upon the rose-petal-and-ivory torso of Rex Barney.

It is no new discovery that when hitters are as hot as that they're likely to mangle any one who gets in their road. As some one pointed out, Bankhead was no less effective than four other Brooklyn pitchers who were accessories to the Pirates' depredations on Monday and Tuesday, when Pittsburgh made thirty-six hits and twenty-six runs.

Walking in with four runs already home, two runners on base and nobody out is no especial treat for any pitcher. It's not going to look any easier to a rookie only a day or so out of Memphis who feels not only the natural nervousness of a newcomer, but also the burden of great responsibility to his race.

They launched Bankhead by breaking a Louisville Slugger over his prow. 9t least he'll never have to go through that again.

—From Red Smith's "Views of Sport," N.Y. Herald Tribune.

BANKHEAD FAN CLUB

*51K Afro-American*

# Wife, Daughter, Dog, Chicken Root for Dan

*Baltimore, Md. Sat. 9-6-47*

MEMPHIS—A woman's jubilation over the success of her husband echoed in the voice of a Memphis housewife last Tuesday as she listened to radio broadcasts telling of her spouse's prowess as a big league baseball pitcher.

Mrs. Dan Bankhead was interviewed shortly after she had finished listening to a news flash telling how lanky Dan Bankhead, pitching his first major league game for the Brooklyn Dodgers, hit a home run in his first time at bat and then went to pitch two ...

*Afro-American*

"You'd better win . . . and if you don't strike them out, don't come home and don't stay away!"

She and the rest of the pitching star's family, his daughter, a dog named "Tackie," and a pet chicken called "Fannie Chee-Chee" . . . leave for Brooklyn this week.

**Sang With Orchestra**

Mrs. Bankhead, a former featured singer with Fletcher Hendersons orchestra, received a portion of her musical training at the Chicago Conservatory of Music.

They married ten years ago in Birmingham, Ala., near Bankhead's native home at Empire. Mrs. Bankhead was educated in the public schools of Kansas City, Kan. She and her daughter have accompanied Bankhead to Puerto Rico, Mexico, and all over the United States during his baseball career.

He entered organized baseball in 1940. *51K Sat. 9-6-47*

The star's wife stated that she doesn't particularly care for baseball . . . "unless Bankhead is pitching."

Memphis team of the Negro American League, and Philip Haugstead of the St. Paul farm team, who will report next Monday. *New York, N.Y.*

First to shake Bankhead's hand was Burt Shotten, Dodger manager. And when the questions started and Bankhead said he liked to work often because it helped his control, Shotten said dryly, "He may work sooner than he thinks. If he isn't afraid, I'm surely not."

"He's got a lot of stuff," Rickey

and a World Series berth, he said seriously, "I feel very fortunate to get the opportunity."

"Do you think you'll feel nervous out there?" a writer asked

# Campanella Not Due Boost, Rickey Says

Pittsburgh, May 16 (AP)—The Brooklyn Dodgers' pioneering in the use of Negro players in the major leagues apparently will be limited indefinitely to the successful experiment with Jackie Robinson.

Brooklyn President Branch Rickey expressed great pleasure over Robinson's performance at first base but declared he does not contemplate bringing another Negro player, Catcher Roy Campanella, to the Dodgers from the club's Montreal affiliate.

"Campanella definitely won't be brought up to the Dodgers this year and maybe never," said Rickey. His view was that the catcher would reach the majors "only through established ability" as in the case of any other player.

**NOT NEEDED**

Another Brooklyn source commented that the club hardly needs another catcher since "we now have the best in the league—Bruce Edwards."

The Dodgers were the first to sign Negro players for prospective major league duty. Robinson was promoted to the parent club after leading the International League hitters while playing last year for Montreal.

Earlier Rickey had been quoted as saying in an interview at St. Paul, where he went yesterday to confer with St. Paul American Association officials, that Campanella probably would be given a tryout with Brooklyn in 1948.

# 'Jackie's Made it Easier For Us', Says 'Campy'

By SAM MALTIN

MONTREAL—"There hasn't been a single incident to mar in any way my appearance in organized baseball. The only jockeying I got was from the Newark players. Funny about that, Jackie told me that it was Syracuse Chiefs who tried to give him the works from their dugout. Otherwise everything is fine."

That's the set-up for Roy Campanella, who replaced Jack Robinson as the only Negro ball player in the International League.

Very friendly, always ready to brighten up the proceedings with an easy laugh, Roy was asked the usual questions. And he smiled in anticipation, as if he heard the same record many times and is familiar with every sound.

All his answers were dressed up in smiles. In plain words, Roy knows what the score is.

"You see, Jackie made things easy for us. I'm just another guy playing baseball. I don't think Montreal fans even think that I could live up to the great season Jackie enjoyed last year. Naturally I'm going to try my best, but I'll have to get out of my slump fast," Roy added with a big likeable grin.

"I'm hitting about .200 now. Mind you, I don't find the pitching in the league puzzling. I see those balls coming, they look easy and then I find myself walking to the bench, hitless. There hasn't been a stolen base chalked up against me, that's a relief anyway."

Coming back to his start in organizing baseball, Roy had this to say:

"Mr. Rickey (Branch Rickey, owner of the Brooklyn Dodgers and a vast baseball farm system) called us into this office and we had a talk. He told us to act like men at all times. Told us what to expect and meet every obstacle like men.

"We have been trying to do just that. Our business is to play ball and we are trying our best. If some guys think they can get fun out of life by trying to pick on us and get us mad, it's okay. We don't get mad, it's strictly small time stuff with them, we're not joining in.

"Outside the ball parks, we are more than ready to be friends with all but don't push ourselves. Right now our job is to play ball. If our conduct on the field and outside will help pave the way for others, then we're batting a 1,000. And a ball player can't be any happier."

Campanella has high praise for his teammates and manager, Clay Hopper. Hopper, who hails from Missouri, has been especially helpful. After one game when Campanella didn't look too well at the plate, Hopper called him aside and instead of giving him merry H—, he just explained Roy's faults with the big wood. That's all.

The Montreal catcher is in a different spot than Jackie Robinson. As a catcher, he's a field general. Must know his opponents' weaknesses and give his battery-mate the lead on every pitch. He has to confer with him and "soothe" him down when he loses control. It's a tough job, but Roy is the kind of a guy that can d it.

Despite his slump, Roy has come through with some important hits the past week. Playing only against left-hand hurling, Roy picked up three hits in one game in as many times at bat. In another he came up with a single when he was

# 'Camp' Gets 3 for 4 In Montreal Game

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier — Sat. 6-7-47

CAMPANELLA'S AVERAGE

| G | ab | r | h | 2b | 3b | hr | sb | rbi | ave. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 22 | 69 | 5 | 17 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 16 | .246 |

MONTREAL—It has been a hard-working week for Roy Campanella. Royals have had trouble on third base and Manager Clay Hopper was forced to shift some of the players around to fill the hot corner. He moved Sandlock, No. 2 catcher with the Montreal International League club, to third and Campanella had to play in every game, a very tough grind for a catcher. The only rest he had was when Royals were rained out.

In the first game against Buffalo Bison in Montreal last Saturday, Roy sparked the club at bat but Royals dropped that one 10-5. They came back in the second to even the count. Roy picked up three hits in four trips to the plate in the opener, but went hitless in the next three games. In that big game, Roy brought home three Montreal counters, got a double and two singles.

Next day Camp went hitless but brought home an improtant counter when he belted the rutabag to deep left center to score Woyt from third.

Royals, at the latest reading of the standing, are in second place, pursuing the strong Jersey City Little Giants. This looks familiar as the Little Giants are the No. 1 farm team of New York Giants and the same goes for Royals, who are the Brooklyn Dodgers' farmers and their battles are just as close.

Saturday's Game—

| Buffalo— | AB | R | H | Montreal— | AB | R | H |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Brown, ss | 3 | 2 | 1 | Welaj, ss | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Wasdell, 1b. | 4 | 2 | 1 | Whitman, lf. | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| Conaster, cf. | 5 | 1 | 3 | Woyt, cf | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| Moore, 3b. | 4 | 1 | 1 | Stvens, 1b. | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| Triplett, lf. | 5 | 2 | 3 | Sessi, rf | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Rapp, rf | 5 | 0 | 2 | Campn'la, c. | 4 | 0 | 3 |
| Bero, 2b | 4 | 1 | 0 | S'ndlok, 3b. | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Mord'ski, c. | 2 | 1 | 1 | Camp's, 2b. | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Mueller, p. | 3 | 0 | 0 | V'n Cuyk, p. | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rogevin, p. | 0 | 0 | 0 | Marq'rdt, p. | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | z-Naylor | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | Pfund, p. | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | zz-Gerh'ser | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 35 | 10 | 12 | Totals | 32 | 5 | 9 |

Summary: Errors — Stevens Conaster.
z-Struck out for Marquardt in 5th.
zz-Walked for Pfund in 9th.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Buffalo | 303 | 013 | 000 | —10 |
| Montreal | 000 | 102 | 020 | — 5 |

# Campy Homers, 3 On, in Royal Win

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md. — Sat. 5-24-47

TORONTO — Roy Campanella, slugging catcher of the Montreal Royals, who has had a hard time shaking a batting jinx, pulled out of it here Friday night with a prodigious grand-slam homer.

This lone blow was sufficient to subdue the Leafs, but his mates added five more runs, to gain a 9-0 win behind young Ery Palica, white.

The former Baltimore Elite Giant receiver banged out his four-master in the fourth inning with the bases loaded. He collected two singles to bring his total to three safeties for the night.

Teammates revealed that Campanella was made the target of some vicious name-calling by the Newark Bears when the Jerseyans visited Montreal last week. The Newark players, it was asserted, are the only ones who have shown an outward hostile attitude toward the stocky backstopper.

# Campy Won't Go Up? He Says: 'I Hope Not'

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

MONTREAL—Roy Campanella, apprised of the fact President Branch Rickey has denied he has any intention of bringing him up to Brooklyn this year, said late last week, "I certainly hope not."

Ricker, answering reporters in Pittsburgh on Friday, said Campanella would not be brought up to Brooklyn this year, perhaps never. He will move up according to his merit, the same as any other player, declared the Mahatma.

Here Sunday, the Montreal Royal catcher said: "I hope Mr. Rickey doesn't promote me before he thinks I deserve it. It isn't my desire to go to the Dodgers simply as company for Jackie (Robinson), or for any other reason except that my play justifies such an elevation."

# Hopper Stamps Okey on Roy Campanella

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md. — Sat. 5-31-47

## Everyone in Royal Camp Sure Catcher Will Shake His Jinx

By Staff Correspondent

MONTREAL — Manager Clay Hopper has no fears about Roy Campanella, the former Baltimore Elite Giants catcher who was a star with Nashua of the New England League last year and is currently serving his freshman year with the Montreal Royals of the International League.

"Roy's a good boy," the Mississippi skipper drawled in an AFRO interview last week. "He ain't scared o' nothing and he ain't a worry-guy. When he starts hitting the ball, these fellahs better look out."

According to Hopper, Campanella is still the No. 1 Royal receiver, despite the fact he has had unusual difficulty untracking himself at the plate thus far. "He's alert, he can throw, he's got a lot of guts and he never wants to lose. That's the kind o' fellah we like in this organization, and I still say he's gonna give out a lot of headaches when he starts hitting that ball like he can."

The former Negro National Leaguer appears to be doing well in the popularity department, too. Indications are that his teammates are fond of him and, as Campanella says, "It's awfully good when they pat you on the back, even when you're not delivering up there at the plate the way you should.'

**Whitman Typical**

Dick Whitman, former Brooklyn Dodger outfielder, is typical of the Montreal players in their attitude toward Roy. "He'll be okay if he's just let alone. You've got to remember that Campy made a pretty big jump coming up to Triple-A ball from a Class B league."

(ED. NOTE: Of eight players who were with the 1946 Nashua Club, Roy was the only one to reach the International League. Two of the remaining seven were promoted to Double-A loops, four went to Class A leagues and one was dropped to Class C.)

Campanella has lost none of his confidence. He told the AFRO that he was "simply in there, swinging." In due time, he said, something is bound to fall safe for him and that's when he'll be on his way.

**Has Learned Much**

"What I like most about this experience," he confided, "is the tremendous amount of savvy I've

been able to acquire. I can't begin to tell you how much I've learned since coming to Montreal. But I can give you one example.

"In the old days, I used to depend on my arm and the arm of my shortstop or second baseman to break up a double-steal. I've learned how to do it now without having to worry about the two throws.

"I've been taught how to throw to second while looking at the runner on third, and how to go to third with the ball if I see the man too far off his bag. It required a lot of practice, but now it comes natural."

Except for occasions when the Royals play in Baltimore, Campanella, like Jackie Robinson, rooms with the rest of the team on road trips. Sat. 5-31-47

"Everybody treats me swell," Campanella asserted, "and I know I'll justify their confidence as soon as I shake this darned jinx at the plate.

"Of one thing you can be sure. I may never be a star, but I'll always be a hustler."

# Roy Campanella Stars With Montreal Royals

Atlanta, Ga. Daily World

Fri. 6-27-47

NEW YORK—(ANP)—Completely overshadowed by Jackie Robinson's feats with the Brooklyn Dodgers, Roy Campanella, catcher for the Montreal Royals, is taking Jackie's place with that team.

Brought up from the Three Rivers team where he starred last year, Roy is the first string catcher for the AAA Montreal team and is one of the reasons why that team again is leading the International league. Roy is handling the pitchers well and is wielding the stick nicely. His every day work is eleciting praise from his manager, the same Clay Hopper who brought Jackie Robinson along.

It may be that Roy is headed for the Brooklyn team next year, or he may be trade bait for Branch Rickey since the Brooklyn team is blessed with a crack catcher, Bruce Edwards, and Roy's ability behind the plate and at the bat is too valuable to keep him idle most of the time. He is the type of player who improves with work and he's getting it in Montreal. Fri. 6-27-47

Keep a sharp lookout for Roy Campanella, who was a crack catcher when he was with Baltimore. He is younger than Robinson and has an excellent chance of coming up, if not to Brooklyn, then to some other big league team next year.

# Campanella's Bat Booms at Montreal

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

Sat. 6-14-47

**CAMPANELLA'S AVERAGE**

| G | AB | R | H | 2b | 3b | HR | SB | RBI | AV. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 32 | 107 | 11 | 31 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 21 | .289 |

MONTREAL—If Roy Campanella keeps up his steady diet of work behind the plate for Montreal Royals of the International Baseball League, he'll probably set some kind of league record. The past week alone he has caught in ten games, at the same time playing an important part of his team's battle to first place in the league standing with his timely slugging.

Campy's wood chopping at the plate brought him among the leaders in that department on the club, with a neat .289, which is quite a jump from the .200 of two weeks ago and .43 point more than that of last week. His hitting spree included a homer, two triples and three two-baggers. Last Friday Roy came through with a two-run homer for the only scores Montreal was able to chalk up against Rochester Red Wings in the second game, after Royals grabbed the opener 8-3. In that game, Campanella was the only Royal to get more than one hit, smacking three of them, including a triple.

Despite the heavy pressure of work behind the plate. Campanella came through with another hitting performance last Wednesday at Syracuse when Royals split with the Chiefs, taking the first game 2-0 and dropping the afterpiece 11-6. Campanella was the only Montrealer to bring in a counter in the first tilt, getting two hits in four trips to the plate. In the second he came up three times, slugged two hits, including a double, and scored two markers.

He kept up his hitting rampage next night at Baltimore, leading the Royals to a 6-4 victory and to the top spot in the International League, which Montrealers took over from Jersey City Little Giants. Roy picked up three-for-four in this one, with two two-baggers and a triple

# Rated Top Catcher in International

Pittsburgh Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier Sat. 8-23-47

MONTREAL—Climbing out of a slump that has engulfed the complete team, Roy Campanella, brilliant backstop of the Montreal Royals, gave another week of standout performance behind the plate, at the plate, and even at first base. Playing five games in four days, Campy failed to get a hit in only one of the tilts, but that one was the toughest as he marched to the plate six times and came back without a bingle. That one day slump spoiled what would otherwise be his best weeks record to date—seven hits for thirteen times at bat. Sat. 8-23-47

But even in the game where he failed to get a bingle his sparking play was the big talk of the evening. He was full of hustle and when a blooper ball fell safe in the game against the Newark Bears with first baseman Ed Stevens, second baseman Al Campanis and right fielder Earl Naylor all chasing the ball, Woodling, the batter, turned first and thought of going to second, but Campanella raced down the line and took a throw from Naylor to touch the runner out. Sat. 8-23-47

In another game against the Newark Bears, Roys fine throwing was a standout. He threw out three of the Bears trying to steal second the only three who tried to run on him.

Close followers of International League play rate Campanella as a sure thing to catch the backstoppers role in the All Star pickings. If thats the case it would mark his second such honor in as many years. He won the unanimous choice in the New England League last season, his first in organized baseball. Sat. 8-23-47

Word reaching from Detroit has the Tigers more than ever interested in Campanella as a future Detroiter and they say that his contract will be bought before the next season comes around.

51b 1947 Roy Campanella

# Campy Earned It

By Sam Maltin

Daily Worker, New York N.Y.

***(Maltin is sports editor of that fine progressive paper up Canada way, the Daily Tribune—and he's been a longtime battler against baseball Jimcrow. Take it away, Sam.—B.M.)***

51b mov. 9-8-47

TORONTO.—Playing his second year in organized baseball, Roy Campanella, the brilliant young catcher of the Montreal Royals, won himself a berth on the International League All-Star team. This is remarkable in the fact that it's his first year in Class AAA ball, but at the same time it's no fluke, one-season starring. The same Roy Campanella was the unanimous choice of baseball writers covering the doings in the New England League last summer when he played for the Nashua Dodgers. Roy slipped some—he missed getting a complete voting card for the backstop duties with the All-Stars this year, taking only 31 out of 32 votes.

* * *

The experts have put the explanation point to the many backslapping quotations aimed at the 25-year old Campanella. Every league manager has been praising his work behind the plate for the Montreal Royals. Buffalo's Paul Richards has been especially loud in his praise of the backstopper. Richards a number of times allowed himself to be quoted as saying that Campanella is the best catcher in either the minors or majors. His talents are wasted. Richards made a report of that sort to the parent club, the Detroit Tigers, and it has been reported that the American League club has already purchased Campy's contract and he's to report next spring to the Tigers.

* * *

**Roy Campanella was picked as an all-star to fill a position which his playing earned him. That's important. It was his playing that won him the honor. And he has been playing in more games this season than any other catcher in any league. He averaged about six games a week, which is remarkable for a backstopper and hasn't turned in a bad performance. His hitting, though most of the season it has been hovering below the .300 mark, has been paying off when needed.**

* * *

Take in to consideration that he's playing a position that calls for him to be the field general. He is the one who handles the pitchers, signals his teammates how to play a batter and outguess the opposition at the plate.

Mov. 9-8-47

* * *

**Campanella has been doing a woderful job in every way. He is very popular with his teammates. We witnessed that in the dressing room when Roy was among them and when he was out. They have a nickname for him, just like for others on the team, and there is no malice in their words or actions. To Roy that's more important than All-Star rating.**

51b 1947

Larry Doby

# Helps Mates Win 2nd Game

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

## Handles First Base Position Flawlessly

## 35,000 SEE DEBUT

Sat-7-12-47

## Managers Promise Ex-GI 'Every Chance'

**By SAM LACY**

**AFRO Sports Editor**

CHICAGO—A shirt-sleeved crowd of 35,000 wild-eyed fans got its first glimpse of a colored player in an American League baseball game, here, Sunday, when the Cleveland Indians unveiled their rookie infielder, Larry Doby, as a starter in the nightcap of a doubleheader with the Chicago White Sox.

The 23-year-old ex-Navy veteran, and one of the top batters in the Negro National League, until his sale last week by the Newark Eagles, trotted onto the field to play first base in an infield which includes the most widely-celebrated second base combination in the junior circuit.

Doby replaced Eddie Robinson, white, former first baseman of the Baltimore Orioles, in the second game of the bill which the Indians split. He drove in one of the runs as he and his mates took the decision, 5-1, after dropping the opener, 3-2.

**Smacks Single on Second Trip**

The blow was a single, acquired on his second trip to the plate in Sunday's game and his third batting appearance since joining the club the previous day.

On Saturday, the former Neward star struck out in the role of pinch-hitter. But Manager Lou Boudreau expressed little concern over this failure since Doby had just donned a uniform and was still nervous from the introductions which had taken place only a couple of hours before in the clubhouse. Sat-7-12-47

Announcement of his purchase from the Eagles was made on Thursday, by Bill Veeck, president of the Indians. He was told to join the team here Saturday. He came on from Philadelphia, following completion of a July 4 double-header between the Eagles and Philly Stars.

**Led Hitting in Former League**

The 185-pound South Carolina-born lad batted .458 through the first half of the Negro National League, this season, and finished the 1946 campaign with an average of .342, to be third in individual batting to teammate Monty Irvin and Baltimore Elite Outfielder Henry Kimbro.

Included among his hits for the season are 13 homers, 16 doubles and eight triples. Aside from getting one hit in four tries in his Sabbath debut, Doby handled eight chances without a flaw.

Purchase of Doby by the Indians puts to rest the persistent rumor that he was being sought by Branch Rickey for the Montreal Royals.

**Sale in Air for Weeks**

The AFRO learned from unimpeachable sources, several weeks ago, that Mrs. Effa Manley, general manager of the Eagles, had been approached to sell her young infield star to the Brooklyn Dodger organization. Sat. 7-12-47

Overtures were made by Branch Rickey, at the behest of Manager Clay Hopper of Montreal, but the Eagle boss turned a deaf ear. Recent developments would indicate that the deal with the Indians had already been closed at that time and the announcement was merely being withheld long enough to permit Doby to help carry the Eagles to the first-half NNL title.

By taking the first half crown, the Newark club is assured a crack at the playoff for the NNL pennant and another chance at the world series, which the Eagles won from Kansas City, last year.

**$12,000 Believed Price**

Although neither of the principles would offer any statement regarding the sale price, it is presumed that the Birds received $12,000 for the ex-gob. It is also believed that his salary, which was $4,900 with the Eagles, will be matched by the Indians.

Although Jackie Robinson stays with the Brooklyn Dodgers at the downtown Stevens Hotel whenever they come to Chicago, Doby was quarterede at the DuSable Hotel, Oakwood Boulevard and Drexel, on the Southside, last week end. The only advantage was that his hotel is nearer Comiskey Park, where the White Sox home games are played. 7-12-47

This park, incidentally, is located at 35th and Wentworth, in the heart of this city's Southside. The National League games, which feature Jackie with the Dodgers, are played on the opposite side of town, at Wrigley Field.

**Jim Crow Rears Head**

Doby and Louis Jones, member of the Indians' public relations staff, roomed together. Cleveland officials have hinted that they are contemplating a move that will give Doby "a companion," indicating that separate housing may be a permanent policy.

Except for this suggestion, both President Bill Veeck and Manager Lou Boudreau appear sincere in their pledges to "give Doby every chance to make good."

A left-hand batter and a right-hand thrower, Doby, who is married, also has had previous playing experience at other infield and outfield positions.

**On Try-Out Basis Now**

Tribe officials said, adding that they would give him a "thorough trial" before determining whether he should be "farmed out" to a minor league club, or retained on the Indians' regular roster.

In the Navy in 1943, Doby played at Great Lakes, Ill., with such well-known stars as Schoolboy Rowe, Virgil Trucks and Bob Klinger, and compiled a batting average of .342. Sat-7-12-47

A big-league berth was described by Doby himself as the dream of his life; but he said he wasn't sure whether he was whether he was "more surprised than excited, or more excited than surprised."

**To Try Hard for Success**

The all-around athlete said, "It's a big jump from our league to the majors, but I think I can make it."

At Paterson, according to NNPA, his friends heaped congratulations upon him at his home; but he took time out to say that if he failed to make the grade in the big leagues "it'll not be because I did not try."

"I'll go wherever Cleveland wants to send me," he said, "although, of course, I would rather play with the Indians themselves.

**Realization of Dreams**

"If, however, they think I should bze farmed out for a while to a minor league club, then I'll go where I'm sent and try to convince them that I'm ready for the real thing," the new Indian declared.

Being signed by the Indians, Doby said, is "the greatest thing that ever happened to me," adding, "It always has been my ambition to play big league ball, but I never thought I would make it.

"From time to time, I'd hear rumors that I was being scouted, but no one ever approached me directly until last week," he asserted.

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## Doby Had 'Butterflies' in His Tummy . . .

**When Larry Doby came up to the Cleveland Indians he couldn't get started. His pinch-hitting was futile and he eventually was put on the shelf. Since then the followers of the ex-Newark Eagles' star have been filled with apprehension. They are wondering if he is going to get another chance. We think he will. Doby is a good ball player and the Cleveland management knows it.**

During an interview recently, Doby told exactly how it feels to walk up to the plate against big league pitching for the first time. Courier, Pittsburgh Pa.

**"When I first came up," he said, "I was so nervous that my teeth used to chatter when I picked up a bat. Of the first eleven times Boudreau sent me up to pinch, I think I fanned nine times. Then I figured it out and decided that I had nothing to be nervous about. From that point on, I met the ball pretty often. I even doubled off Bill Bevens at Cleveland in a night game when the Yankees were riding that long winning streak."**

Doby is optimistic about the 1948 season. He believes he'll find himself and live up to expectations. One of the reasons he feels that way is because he was given considerable encouragement by Coach Bill McKechnie when he left for home at the end of the season. Sat. 10-11-47

**"Mr. McKechnie is a wonderful man," Doby said, "and he told me that when I report with the other players at Arizona, he is going to take me under his wing and try to make an outfielder out of me. I guess they figure that I'll stand a better chance in the outfield, and if they want me to be in the pasture patrol, it's fair enough by me."**

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Montgomery, Ala. Advertiser

**Robinson Lauds Doby**

BROOKLYN, July 3.—(AP)—Jackie Robinson, speedy first baseman for the pennant contending Brooklyn Dodgers and the first Negro ever to play in the major leagues, said today that Larry Doby, Negro infielder signed last night by Cleveland, "is a good ball player. He should make the grade." Fri. 7-4-47

Robinson said he played with and against Doby in the Negro National League.

"Larry is a good all-around ball player. He is fast and can hit," Robinson added.

# Doby Hits Homer In Fina[l] Game With Newark Eagles

Atlanta, Ga. Daily World

Wed. 7-9-47

NEWARK, N. J. — (NNPA) — Playing his final game with the Newark Eagles, Larry Doby, now a Cleveland Indian, hit a homerun in the first game of a doubleheader with the Philadelphia Stars at Bear Stadium July 4.

The two teams split —the Eagles winning the first, 11-5, and dropping the nightcap, 10-5.

Larry's homer in the opener brought his total to fourteen for the season. He finished the first half of the season leading in homers.

Lennie Pearson, Bob Harvey and Johnny Davis also got homers off Harould Gould, who yielded sixteen hits in the first game. Davis got two homers off Gould's slants.

**RECEIVES AWARDS**

Between games the members of the Eagles presented Doby with a cash present and a traveling bag.

"So long boys, and good luck," said Larry after getting similar wishes from the Eagles.

As an Indian Doby will get more than $1,000 above his contract with the Eagles. Wed. 7-9-47

Among gifts from fans July 4 was $50 from the Old-time Athletes' Association of New Jersey, a group of former colored baseball players track and boxing stars.

"It's the one thing I've been hoping for ever since I got into baseball declared Mrs. Effie Manley, business manager of the Eagles.

"If they play him in the outfield, there's no question about his making good," said Biz Mackey, Eagles' manager. "If anything happens to Gordon, Larry will fill in at second. But I read Manager Lou Boudreau plans to use him at first base. I don't know how he'll do there. I never saw him cover the position." Wed. 7-9-47

Doby himself was not worrying. "I got my baseball start as a high school 1st baseman in Paterson," he said. "I covered short for the Great Lakes Naval Air Station, and played second for the Eagles."

He added that he was going to work harder than ever before at anything Boudreau suggested.

# Larry Doby Is Nervous But Good In Sudden Initiation Into The Majors

Fri. 7-11-47

St. Louis Argus

An excellent description of the sudden debut of Larry Doby into American League baseball last Saturday was given by Milt Woodard of the Chicago Tribune sports staff. Writing on his impressions of the rookie's performance with the White Sox against the Cleveland Indians, of which the famous movie and radio comedian, Bob Hope, is a shareholder, he had the following to say: St. Louis, Mo.

"Like a youngster attending his first day of school, Larry Doby was a silent study in self-consciousness yesterday during his debut as the first Negro to suit up in the American League.

"Even while striking out in his role as a Cleveland pinch-hitter in the seventh inning, Doby was like a youngster making his first appearance in the public's eyes. After taking his third swing, he grinned sheepishly toward the Cleveland bench. Nonetheless, his debut lacked little in the way of poise and self assurance during the time he was concentrating on the deliveries of Earl Harrist.

"Doby swung from a wide-legged stance, and took a terrific cut on Harrist's first pitch. He almost knocked Umpire Joe Paparrella off third base line with a line foul on his second swing. After taking outside and inside pitches for a two-two count, he fanned on an outside delivery.

**He'll Break in Gradually**

"There was no bravo on the part of the 22-year-old youngster, purchased last week by the Cleveland Indians. He spoke only when addressed, and then in a voice audible only to the most alert ears. He gave the impression of wanting to be any place except at Comiskey Park within the range of those questions and cameras which were pointed at him. Fri. 7-11-47

"Manager Lou Boudreau was Doby's first-day guardian, posing with him on the dugout steps, coaching on the technique of the double-play, and introducing him to his fellow Indian players. Boudreau was his usual study in seriousness.

"'We'll break Doby in gradually,' Boudreau stated. 'I'm not going to put him or myself on the spot by using him immediately. He'll likely start out as a pinch-hitter. As for his fielding positions, he'll start as an understudy at either short or second.'

"Under pump-handled questioning, Doby admits he was "scared stiff" when the announcement was made Thursday that he was to join the Indians. "I'm not scared now," but his nervousness belied Doby's statment.

"The former all-around prep athlete at Patterson, N. J., exposed timid confidence over his ability to hit major league pitchers. 'I faced Bob Klinger and Schoolboy Rowe in the Navy and hit 'em. Maybe I can do the same in the American League.'

**Hands, Arms Adequate**

"He expressed no reluctance toward dropping to the minors for more seasoning, but first would like to see how his .458 batting average, acquired in the Negro National League, holds up against major league pitching. Reports indicate he could make the grade today as a hitter, but his fielding ability is questionable. Fri. 7-11-47

"Aside from his great record made with the Newark Eagles in the Negro National circuit, Doby has several more tangible recommendations. Chief among them are his hands—a pair which resemble two bunches of bananas. They're about as large as any in baseball.

"The six-foot, 185-pound player received a robust round of applause when he made his appearance shortly before the start of fielding practice yesterday. He joined Joe Gordon at second base during the infield workout and indicated he had the raw equipment — including a good arm — to receive major-league [con]sideration."

# "I Think I Can Make It" Former Newark Star Says

CLEVELAND, Ohio—(SNS)— Following Brooklyn's precedent-shattering example with Jackie Robinson the Cleveland Indians announced on Thursday the signing of Larry Doby hard-hitting Negro infielder from the Newark Eagles, 1946 champions of the Negro National League.

After being purchased by Cleveland the 2--year-old star was permitted to finish the first half of the split season with the Eagles Friday, before joining the Indians at Chicago, in time to be in uniform for the game with the White Sox. Louis Negro public relations consultant of the Cleveland Baseball Club was on hand to accompany Doby to the Windy City.

**FIRST TO SIGN IN AMERICAN LEAGUE**

Doby, the second Negro in modern history to be brought up by a major league club will be the first member of his race to make the American League.

Taking time out from congratulations from his frineds at his home at Patterson, N. J., the promising young star, who has been banging balls against the fences of the Negro National League for the past two seasons, said: "It's a big jump from our league to the majors, but I think I can make it."

"If I fail to make the grade, it'll not be because I did not try," he asserted. "I'll go wherever Cleveland wants to send me," he added, "although of course I would rather play with the Indians themselves. But, if they think I should be farmed out for a while to a minor-league club, then I'll go where I'm sent and try to convince them that I'm ready for the real thing".

**MAJORS HAVE ERACED BARS AGAINST NEGROES**

In announcing the signing of Doby President Bill Veeck of the Indians indicated that the majors now have taken down all bars against colored players, and pointed out that a wide open scramble for Negro players was now underway. President Veeck predicted that "within ten years Negro players will be in regular service with big league teams. The entrance of Negroes into the majors is not only inevitable--it is here."

"Robinson has proved to be a real big leaguer," President Veeck added So. I wanted to get the best of the available Negro boys while the grabbing was good. Why wait? With in ten years Negro players will be in regular service with big league teams, for there are many colored players with sufficient capabilities to make the majors."

**"ROUTINE PURCHASE"**

Manager Lou Boudreau, who regarded Doby's acquisition as a "routine purchase," said he would give the infielder a "good looking over" before handing him a shot at first base. He added: "race, creed or creed or color are not factors in baseball success, whether it be in the major leagues or minors. Ability and character are the only factors." He also stated that Doby will be given every chance to prove that he has the ability.

Larry MacPhail, president of the New York Yankees, refused to comment, but Branch Rickey of the Dodgers—who smashed tradition by signing Robinson--said he was not surprised.

"If Doby is a good player, and I understand that he is, the Cleveland club is showing signs that it wants to win," Rickey said.

"The gate has always been open to the Negro player," Senator owner Clark Griffin summed up. "If anybody wants to sign a Negro player that's fine and dandy. I wish the player and the club good luck. If he turns out to be a credit to the game, more power to him."

**BRILLIANT RECORD**

Doby was purchased for an unannounced sum from the Newark Eagles, where he had made a brilliant record. He was leading the league in home runs with 13 and in doubles with 16 and a season's batting average of .458. Like Robinson. Doby is exceptionally fast. He is six foot, one inch weighs around 185 pounds, bats left and throws right.

A star athlete at East Side High School, Patterson, N. J., he captained the baseball team to the city championship in 1941 and 1942. Entering Long Island University that fall, Doby signed with the Eagles the next spring and then was in the Navy from 1943 to1946. While in the service, he played against such Great Lake stars as Schoolboy Rowe, Virgil Trucks an Bob Klinger and against that opposition had a batting average of .342.

Bill Killefer, Cleveland scout eyed Doby for the Indians for a period of two months, and described him as a "great ball player."

# Newark Negro To Join Cleveland

Montgomery, Ala. Advertiser

Fri. 7-4-47

NEWARK, N. J., July 3.—(AP) —Larry Doby, who came from Paterson via the Newark Eagles to become the first Negro player in the American Baseball League, is the non-committal sort.

Informed of the Cleveland announcement that he would join the Indians there, Doby said he wasn't sure just yet about anything.

"It may be me," he said at Wilmington, Del., where the Eagles played a Negro National League game last night against the Philadelphia Stars, "but I won't know until I get back to Newark." Fri. 7-4-47

At Paterson High School, Doby won all-state honors at baseball, football and basketball. In his senior year there, he decided to try his hand at track and became a star broadjumper and quarter-miler.

# Doby's Single Drive In Run As Indians Win, 5-1

Atlanta, Ga. Daily World
Tues. 7-8-47

CHICAGO, Ill.—(SNS) —Breaking in the Cleveland lineup at first base, Larry Doby, the second Negro to be called up to the majors in modern times, lined out a single to drive in a run as the Tribe defeated the Chicago White Sox, 5-1 in the second game of a doubleheader, played Sunday before 31,566 fans.

Doby, who started in the second game, handled eight putouts without an error. His hit drove in one of the Indians' two runs in the third inning. The promising newcomer also participated in a fast double-play, Gordon to Boudreau to Doby.

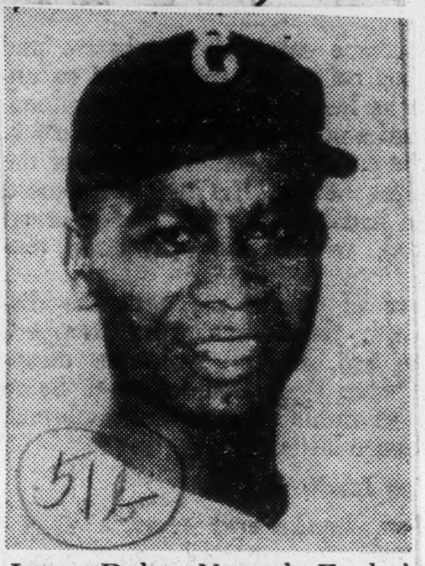
In his debut in the American League, Doby struck out Saturday as a pinch-hitter in the seventh inning. He also struck out in his appearance to the plate Sunday.

**PURCHASED FROM NEWARK EAGLES** Tues. 7-8-47

Doby was purchase last week from the Newark Eagles, of the Negro National League for an undisclosed sum. The price tag, however, reputed to have been $15,000.

After playing in the 4th of July doubleheader with the Eagles against the Philadelphia Stars, at the Bears Stadium in Newark, he reported to the Indians, at Chicago.

Born in Camden, South Carolina, the 185-pound infielder played every sport in East Side High School in Patterson, N. J. He starred for the school's city baseball champions in 1941 and 1942 before entering Long Island University, and signed with the Eagles before entering the U. S. Navy in July, 1943.



Larry Doby, Newark Eagles' infielder, first Negro played signed by an American League club, will get a trial with Cleveland.

# Negro Star Is Signed by Cleveland

New York, N.Y.
Fri. 7-4-47

CLEVELAND

The Cleveland Indians yesterday announced the signing of Infielder Larry Doby, hard-hitting Negro from the Newark Eagles of the Negro National League.

Doby is the second Negro in history to be brought up by a major league team, following first baseman Jackie Robinson, who joined the Brooklyn Dodgers this year. He is the first in the American League.

Manager Lou Boudreau, in announcing the purchase said, "in my mind this is a routine purchase."

Doby, 22, is leading his league in home runs with 13, and in doubles with 16. He also has slugged eight triples and has a season batting average of .458. Doby probably will play first base with the Indians when he joins the team Saturday at the close of the first half of the Negro league's season.

The slugging infielder was bought for an undisclosed amount of cash by Indians' President Bill Veeck. Doby is six foot, one inch tall and weighs 185, bats left and throws right-handed.

"I am operating under the belief that the war advanced us in regard to racial tolerance," Veeck said. "I probably will catch hell for a while, but it is my hope it will work out." Fri. 7-4-47

Doby has played every infield position, but first base is considered his best, according to Boudreau. That position would make him a rival of Ed Robinson and Les Fleming, both native Texans, who have shared the first base position this year.

Boudreau, while indicating strongly that Doby would be tried at the initial sack, said he preferred to see the newcomer in action before trying him in the lineup.

# Scouts Say He Has All Attributes Of Great Ball Player

The Call
Kansas City, Mo.
Fri. 7-11-47

CLEVELAND. —(NNPA)—Larry Doby, 22-year-old hard-hitting second baseman of the Negro National League Newark Eagles, the first colored player to break into the 47-year-old American league, and the second to become a major league player in modern times, became a playing member of the Cleveland Indians Saturday.

He was purchased from the Eagles last Wednesday at a reputed price of $15,000.

In his first time up Saturday, he served as a pinch-hitter for Cleveland against the White Sox in Chicago and struckout with two men on base. He hit a drive down the left-field line, foul by inches, before swinging at the third strike on a 2-2 count. At infield practice he worked out at second base with Joe Gordon.

In the Sunday double header between the Indians and the Chicago White Sox, Doby played first base in the second game for the Indians. He handled eight putouts flawlessly, figured in a double play—Gordon-Boudreau-Doby—and hit a sharp single to left. He struckout once and was thrown out twice. Fri. 7-11-47

Doby left the Newark Eagles after the Independence Day double header with the Philadelphia Stars at Bears stadium in Newark and reported in Chicago last Saturday for duty with the Indians.

Bill Veeck, Cleveland president, said Doby was scouted for the Indians by Bill Killefer, who reported that he had all the attributes of a "great ball player."

"I don't think any man who has the ability should be barred from major league baseball on account of his color," said Veeck. "The entrance of Negroes into both major leagues is not only inevitable, it is here."

**In announcing the purchase, Lou Boudreau, Indian manager, said the acquisition of Doby "is a routine baseball purchase—in my mind." He added that "Creed, race or color are not factors in baseball success, whether it be in the major or minor leagues. Ability and character are the only factors.**

**Born in Camden, S. C., the 185-pound infielder played every sport at East Side high school in Paterson, N. J. He starred for the school's city baseball champions in 1941 and 1942, before entering Long Island university. He signed with the Eagles in the spring of 1943, but entered the navy in July of that year.**

**A left-hand batter and a right-hand thrower, Doby, who is married, also has had previous experience at other infield and outfield positions.**

"Being with the Indians," said Doby, "is the greatest thing that ever happened to me."

# Cleveland's Larry Doby

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

CONGRATULATIONS to Cleveland on becoming the second big league to sign a Negro baseball player.

Congratulations to team president Bill Veeck, who lost a foot fighting for democracy on Bougainville and seems to know what he was fighting for. Fri. 7-4-47

Congratulations again to Brooklyn's Branch Rickey, who started the democratic ball rolling this year by signing Jackie Robinson. Jackie has come through, under tremendous pressure, as an authentic big league star.

Congratulations to those, not least our own sports writers, who continued the good fight even after the Robinson signing, noting the merits of other Negro players, and putting the question to other big league owners, managers and players. Fri. 7-4-47

Finally, heartiest congratulations to the new member of the Cleveland Indians, 22-year-old Larry Doby, a veteran of three years in the Navy and the kind of ballplayer who should gladden the hearts of Cleveland fans, who have been pennantless for lo, these 27 long years.

# American League's New Negro Player Always Carried Glove

The Montgomery, Ala. Advertiser
Tues. 7-8-47

By JAKE PENLAND

Sports Editor of The Columbia S. C., State
Written For The Associated Press

CAMDEN, S. C., July 7.—(AP)—Larry Doby, Negro infielder recently signed by the Cleveland Indians to become the first of his race to play in the American League, was one half of a father-son baseball succession here.

When he was "just a kid toddling around with his pa, he always was carrying a glove," Richard DuBose recalls.

DuBose, Negro baseball promoter and manager of a semi-pro team here for almost 25 years, coached Larry when the youthful Doby, a Camden native, was 14 or 15 and played first base regularly for the Camden team.

"He succeeded his father, David, who played first base for the team for years and was one of the best first basemen in the state's colored ranks," DuBose said.

"David wanted Larry to be a good ball player and when the youngster was only seven, David had him playing baseball.

"That kid was just a natural player. He was a thin kid and you would never know the power those skinny arms carried until you saw him throw the ball or swing a bat.

"He just lived and breathed baseball. Tues. 7-8-47

"Larry played with us out at the local park and in many parts of the state.

"I knew that some day that kid would go places as a player. He is a natural if there ever was one."

# Doby Not Seeing Too Much Action

The Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla. Sat. 8-9-47

WASHINGTON, D. C., July — (ANP) — Larry Doby, whom the Cleveland Indians recently acquired from the Newark Eagles, saw action in only one of the three games the Indians played against the Washington Senators.

In the seventh, Doby batter for Ken Keltner, Indian third baseman, and replaced at second base Joe Gordon, for whom Fleming had batted. Doby got a very friendly reception when he came up into the seventh to hit and when he trotted onto the field. Sat. 8-9-47

At bat two times, he forced runners both times but his speed prevented double plays frob being made. He handled two chances in the field.

# 'DOBY TO STAY'—VEECK

Daily Worker—N.Y. New York, N.Y.
8-26-47 Tues.

*Larry Doby, first Negro baseball player in the American League, will be kept on the Cleveland roster for the rest of the year, Bill Veeck, president of the Indians said yesterday.*

*Veeck said that he still thinks Doby is a good ball player and that he will be retained.*

*"For next year," Veeck added, "Doby might be farmed out, but that I don't know right now."*

51b 1947 Larry Doby

Richmond Times Dispatch
July 5, 1947

—AP Photo

**READING THE GOOD NEWS**—Larry Doby, new infielder of the Cleveland Indians, and the first Negro to be signed to an American League contract, reads the glad tidings with his wife, Helyn, in their home, Paterson, N. J., Thursday.

# DOBY MAKES DEBUT AS INDIANS LOSE, 6-5

New York, N.Y. Times

## Negro Star Strikes Out as a Pinch Hitter Against the White Sox—Smith Wins

51b Sun. 7-6-47

CHICAGO, July 5 (AP) — Larry Doby, first Negro player in the forty-seven-year history of the American League, made his debut in a Cleveland Indian uniform today by striking out as a pinch-hitter against the White Sox. The Chicagoans won, 6—5, Ed Smith gaining the victory, though being relieved after six innings. Mel Harder was the loser.

Doby, les sthan three hours after he signed a Cleveland contract, went down swinging on five pitches against Earl Harrist in the seventh inning, with one out and Cleveland runners on third and first.

Obviously nervous, the 22-year-old player from Paterson, N. J., who was purchased by Cleveland last Thursday from the Newark Eagles of the Negro National League, got a rousing hand from a Comiskey Park crowd of more than 18,000 as he stepped up to bat for Pitcher Bryan Stephens.

Doby, a felt-handed batter, swung from his heels and missed Harrist's first pitch. He also went after the second pitch and connected for a scorching drive down the left-field line which was foul by inches. Doby let the next two pitches go by for balls but on the fifth toss, a little wide, he swung again and missed for a strike-out. The Negro again was loudly applauded on the way back to the bench. Sun. 7-6-47

### Works Out at Second

Neither Manager Lou Boudreau nor Club President Bill Veeck had any idea when Doby, second Negro to crash the major leagues this year, would appear in the field, or at what position.

In the pre-game fielding practice, Doby worked out at second along with Joe (Flash) Gordon, who ranks as the American League's top second baseman and will start for the junior circuit in the All-Star game at Wrigley Field next Tuesday. Boudreau indicated Doby would be held in reserve for either second or shortstop, the Tribe manager's own position.

Doby played second for the Newark Eagles, pacing the league in hitting at .415, in homers with 14 and doubles at 16 as the Negro circuit closed the first half of its season yesterday.

Like Jackie Robinson of the Brooklyn Dodgers, who was the first Negro in modern baseball history to sign a major league contract, Doby indicated a willingness to play at any position—"Just so I play." Robinson was at second base for Montreal last year and then made the grade at first for the Dodgers this season.

### Poses With Veeck

Doby was escorted to Comiskey Park by Veeck, who posed with the quiet Negro for pictures and then patted him on the back with the advice: "Just remember you're only another baseball player. Keep loose and be a good rapper."

He wore a Cleveland uniform with No. 14, worn by Catcher Jim Hegan last year and in the dressing room was introduced to the Indian players, who greeted him cordially.

When he trotted onto the field the crowd gave him a loud round of applause. After warming up with Boudreau and Coach George Susce, Doby took his place in infield practice and while appearing jittery he accepted more than a half dozen chances without a bobble.

"I'm really nervous," Doby told sports writers. "Last night on the train was the first time in four nights I got any sleep."

Boudreau emphasized that Doby would not be hurried into big league action.

"I'm not going to press Larry," the manager declared. "If I put him in right away, I'd put him on the spot. After all, this is major league pitching and the pace is fast. It wouldn't be fair not to give him a look at the picture from the bench at first.

"Of course, if the game warrants it, or there is a spot I need a left-handed pinch-hitter, why Doby may get the call."

### Better Than Robinson

Veeck said he was convinced that Doby was a better prospect than Robinson. "This boy can really tag the ball," said the Tribe prexy. "We scouted both Robinson and Doby and Bill Killefer highly recommended Larry."

Doby signed a regular, one-year contract at an undisclosed salary with a bonus stipulation. It was rumored Doby was purchased for $10,000 with another $5,000 if he remains with Cleveland for thirty days. Sun. 7-6-47

Doby, a 185-pounder who stands 6 feet, 1 inch was born in Camden, S. C. He was an all-around athletic star at East Side High School in Paterson and was a freshman at Long Island University when he was inducted into the navy in 1943. Assigned to Great Lakes Ill., training center, Doby played against a number of major leaguers on a Negro sailor squad.

The box score:

| CLEVELAND (A.) | ab. | r. | h. | po. | a. | e. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Met'vich, cf. | 5 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Mitchell, lf. | 5 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Seerey, rf. | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Boudreau, ss | 4 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| Rob'son, 1b. | 4 | 0 | 1 | 11 | 0 | 0 |
| Gordon, 2b. | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| Keltner, 3b. | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Lopez, c. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| aEdwards | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ruszk'ski, c | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Harder, p. | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Stephens, p. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| bDoby | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lemon, p. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| cFleming | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 33 | 5 | 7 | 24 | 10 | 0 |

| CHICAGO (A.) | ab. | r. | h. | po. | a. | e. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Baker, 3b. | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Appling, ss. | 5 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Wright, rf. | 5 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Wallaesa, lf. | 5 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| York, 1b. | 4 | 0 | 1 | 7 | 1 | 0 |
| Philley, cf. | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dickey, c. | 3 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Michaels, 2b | 3 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 0 |
| Smith, p. | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Harrist, p. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Maltzb'er, p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Total | 34 | 6 | 11 | 27 | 8 | 0 |

aGrounded into forced play for Lopez in seventh.
bStruck out for Stephens in seventh.
cWalked for Lemon in ninth.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cleveland | 0 0 1 | 0 0 0 | 2 0 2 | —5 |
| Chicago | 2 0 0 | 1 2 0 | 0 1 .. | —6 |

Runs batted in—Wright, Wallaesa, Metkovich 2, Baker, Philley, Dickey, Mitchell 2, Appling, Seerey.

Two-base hits—Appling 3, Harder, Michaels. Three-base hits—Metkovich, Philley. Stolen bases—Philley 2. Double plays—Appling, Michaels and York; Gordon, Boudreau and Robinson. Left on bases—Cleveland 8, Chicago 10. Bases on balls—Off Harder 3, Lemon 2, Smith 5, Harrist 2. Struck out—By Harder 2, Lemon 1, Smith 3, Harrist 1. Hits—Off Harder 9 in 4 2-3 innings, Stephens 1 in 1 1-3, Lemon 1 in 2, Smith 3 in 6 (pitched to two batters in 7th), Harrist 3 in 2 (pitched to two batters in ninth), Maltzberger 1 in 1. Hit by pitcher—By Lemon (Philley). Wild pitch—Smith. Winning pitcher—Smith. Losing pitcher—Harder. Umpires—McKinley, Summers, Rue and Paparella. Time of game—2:28. Attendance—14,655.

Associated Press

CLEVELAND'S LARRY DOBY
*Plane or train?*

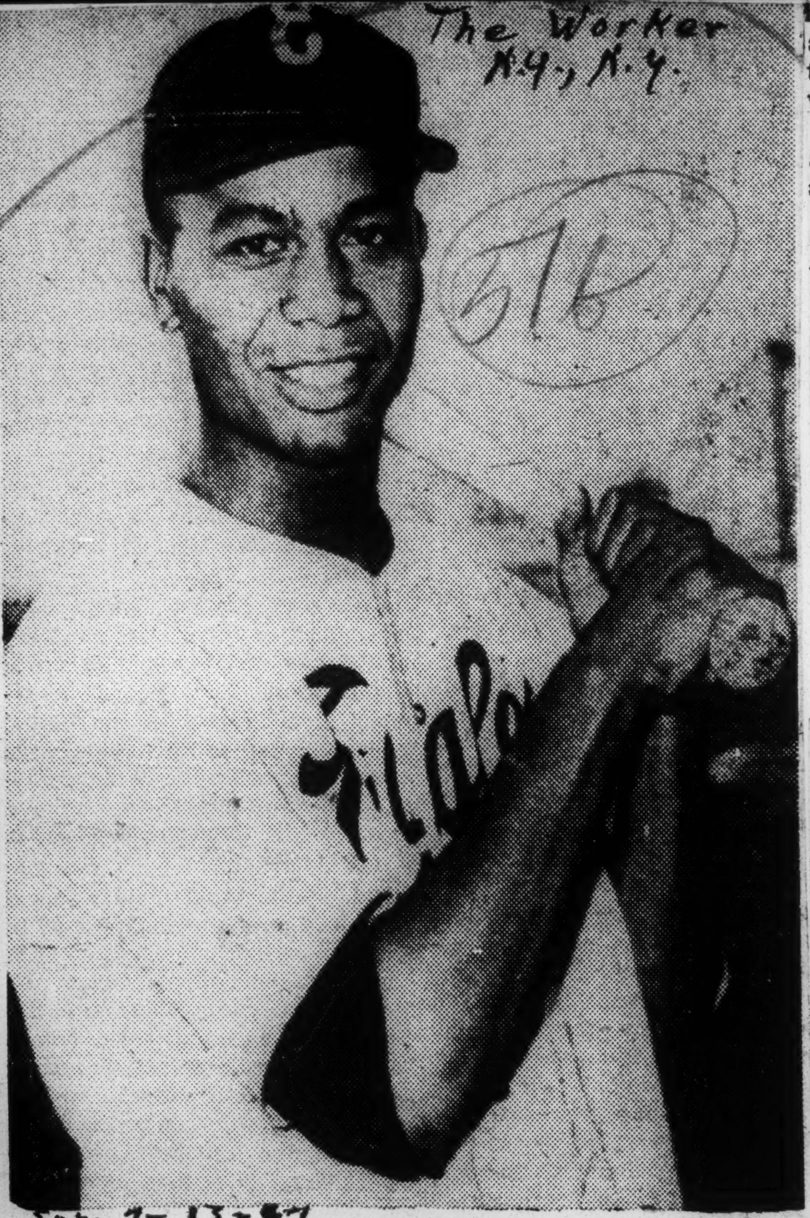
Time Magazine – Chicago, Mon. 7-14-

No. 2

Negro Jackie Robinson had triumphed over race prejudice and enemy pitching. He was batting .312 and leading the National League in stolen bases.

Now that Brooklyn's Dodgers had broken through baseball's racial barrier, at least half a dozen other big-league clubs were scouting Negro talent. Last week the Cleveland Indians signed up powerful, 22-year-old Larry Doby, an infielder who has been batting .458 with the Newark (Negro) Eagles, and leading the league in home runs. Doby refused to believe the news until the Indians got down to specific details: did he want to go to Cleveland by plane or train? Said Doby: "Just this once let's take the train. I'm excited enough as it is."

In his first three times at bat, for Cleveland, Lefthanded Larry Doby, the first Negro in the American League, struck out twice, hit one single.



The Worker N.Y., N.Y.

Sun. 7-13-47

LARRY DOBY

# Indians' New Player A Real Treat for Fans

The Worker New York, N.Y.

By Roger Daniels Sun. 7-13-47

From what I've seen of Larry Doby in and around New York, Cleveland fans have a real treat in store for them. Doby, as you probably know is the slugging youngster whose signing by the Cleveland Indians made him the first Negro to play in the American League, Jackie Robinson, of course, being the first in the majors.

Doby, on occasion, hits as long a ball as anyone I've ever seen. In a game this year at Ebbets Field he hit a home run into right center field that cleared the high scoreboard by 10 feet. The scoreboard is a good 350 feet from home plate so the blow must have traveled well over 400 feet. His batting average with Newark, of the Negro National League, was a rousing .458, including 13 home runs and 16 doubles, showing that he is much more than just an occasional long ball hitter.

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**AT THE PLATE** he looks very much like Stan Musial, Cardinal first baseman, whose hitting style he adopted. A left-handed hitter, he takes a firm position in the middle of the batter's box, with his right foot back toward the outside line and his bat held high in the air, the handle almost level with his shoulder. Sun. 7-13-47

Doby, who is six foot one in his stocking feet, weighs 185 pounds and is 22 years old. He attended Long Island University for a short time before he entered the Navy, where he served a three-year hitch. He was discharged in 1946 and joined the Newark Eagles in time to help spark them to a Negro National League pennant. He burned up the league and had been scouted by several big league teams. But Cleveland scout Bill Killefer, acting on owner Veeck's instructions, beat the others to the draw.

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**DOBY PLAYED** second at Newark, where his speed and smooth pivoting were used to great advantage. However, he can play all over the ball park. In his first games with the Indians, he has been used at first base, a weak spot in the Cleveland lineup all year. His height and long-arm stretch should stand him in good stead there.

He drew a tremendous ovation in his first major league appearance at Comisky Park in Chicago. Coming in as a pinch-hitter he was admittedly, nervous. After lining a sharp foul to left, he went down swinging. The next day he appeared in the starting lineup for the first time. He got an infield single and batted in a run, while performing creditably at first base.

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**HIS SIGNING** was greeted by much excitement in his home town of Paterson, N. J. He went to East Side High School there and was a star and captain of the school baseball team for the last two years before he graduated.

In a statement to the press after Doby's signing, Prexy Bill Veeck stated, "within a few years 10 to 12 Negro players will be in the big leagues." Sun. 7-13-47

If the interested sounds from Pittsburgh and Chicago mean anything, there will be a few more Negro stars in the big leagues this very season.

# Doby Roused From Sleep to Hear News of Signing

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

PATERSON.—Larry Doby, 23, of 199 Summer St., former East Side High four-lettered athlete, key factor of the Negro National League champions, Newark Eagles, and Navy veteran, was aroused from a brief slumber at 7 a.m. Thursday to learn that he had become the first colored player to be assigned to play major baseball in the American League.

Unconfirmed reports of the history-making news and assignment first reached Doby, Wednesday night at Wilmington, Del., where the Eagles dropped a 10-9 decision to the Philadelphia Stars.

"I don't know. Maybe I am the one," Larry told Wilmington sports writers when asked whether he was the Newark Eagles player who had been signed by the Cleveland Indians. Sat. 7-12-47

The news was confirmed by Mrs. Effa Manley, business manager of the Newark Eagles, who aroused Doby one hour and a half after he had arrived from Wilmington.

He is one of the greatest all-round athletes developed in Paterson in a number of years.

He graduated from East Side High in 1942, carrying with him top honors in baseball, basketball, football and track, and twice named to the All-State team in baseball, at which game he played in all infield positions.

He also was named once each on the All-State basketball and football rosters. In addition he was a point scorer in the State Track Championships in 1942, a sport he took up in his senior year, starring in the broad jump.

After leaving East Side he entered Long Island University where he studied a part of a semester before joining the Navy. He played baseball and football while in the armed service.

He joined the Eagles before the 1946 season began after his discharge from the Navy, and, after a slow start, ended last season at the top of the National League batting honors.

Last Aug. 10, he married his school days sweetheart, Miss Helen Curvy, daughter of Mrs. Emily Curvy and the late Walter Curvy of the Summer St. address.

She graduated from East Side in 1943, and is the first colored girl to be employed by the Bell Telephone Company here, where she remained until last week.

"I know Larry is going to make good in the major league because he is very serious about baseball," Mrs. Doby beamed as she listed the wardrobe she intends to take "in a few days" when she joins her husband.

"Of course, I'm going to travel with him. That is why I have given up my job," she concluded.

Doby, a 185-pound, six-foot-one-inch athlete, nailed his 14th home run in his final game with the Eagles on July 4, two round-trippers over the championship mark set in the National League last season by the late Gosh Gibson. He also led the league in two-base hits with 18 to his credit, and ended his Negro National League hitting average for the season at .416. Sat. 7-12-47

Last winter, playing in the Puerto Rican League in South America, he hit at a .356 clip, and was second in the league in home runs with 14 circuit knocks.

He is not exactly a stranger to major league players. He performed against many of them last winter in South America, and played three games there against the New York Yankees.

Doby said his good-byes to teammates and fans after the first game of a doubleheader with the Philadelphia Stars on Friday at Rupert Stadium, Newark, and among his farewell gifts was $50 by the Old-Timers' Athletic Association of New Jersey, an organization of former baseball, boxing and track stars.

Doby's selection has evoked hometown pride like few events. He has been a sports hero since high school days. Too, he is the second Paterson man to make big league baseball. The only other was Charles Jamieson, who was with the Cleveland Indians 14 years.

## Veeck, Boudreau Talk for AFRO

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

CLEVELAND—President Bill Veek and Manager Lou Boudreau of the Cleveland Indians, told the AFRO here Thursday night that Larry Doby, newly-acquired rookie infielder, "will have every chance to make good." Sat-7-12-47

Veeck, contacted shortly after announcement of Doby's purchase from the Newark Eagles, said: "We feel that the time for entrance of qualified colored players into the big leagues is here. The Cleveland club does not believe that color should be a factor when the quality of a baseball player is being considered. Doby joins our club with the same assurances that are given every other youngster."

Boudreau, regarded as one of baseball's all-time great shortstops, told the AFRO: "The signing of this youngster is unusual only because he is colored. That fact should not and will not alter his chances with us. I do not plan to rush him because that would be unfair to the player. He will be worked in gradually and will be given every opportunity to make good."—SAM LACY.

# Larry Doby Joins Jackie in Majors;

CLEVELAND, Ohio—Larry Doby became the first Negro to appear in an American League game, Saturday, when he appeared as a pinch-hitter for Cleveland Indian hurler, Bryant Stevens, in the seventh inning of a game against the Chicago White Sox in Chicago's Comiskey Park.

Doby struck out, but all of Cleveland is prepared to welcome him, for the entire sports-loving city feels that the 22-year-old infielder, though they know little about him, will make the grade.

Doby was signed to a contract in the offices of the Chicago White Sox at noon Saturday following a conference with Bill Veeck.

**WAS NERVOUS**

The former member of the Newark Eagles of the Negro National League who had batted approximately .415 and had hit fourteen home runs while a member of the Eagles was purchased for a reported ten thousand five hundred dollars plus, last Wednesday. He joined the Indians in Chicago, Saturday, after playing his final game with the Eagles Friday. Doby wh

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

## Doby Thought It Was a Joke!

Sat. 7-12-47

**When Louis Jones, assistant publicity director of the Cleveland Indians, met Larry Doby in New York two weeks ago and said: "Within a week of now you will be playing with the Cleveland Indians," the Negro infielder thought it was a joke.**

Jones, who is the only Negro holding such a job in baseball, told Larry that Cleveland wanted to sign him. "I thought he was trying to kid me," Doby said. "I hardly paid any attention to what he said."

**But Jones was not kidding. In fact when he turned in his report to Bill Veeck the Cleveland president went to work immediately. Instead of Doby having to wait a week, the deal took less than three days.**

**Veeck called Mrs. Effa Manley of the Newark Eagles by telephone from Cleveland, confirmed the call by wire and almost before he knew it Doby was in the big leagues.**

CLEVELAND, Ohio—When Larry Doby was purchased for $10,500 plus, by the Cleveland Indians of the American Baseball League, from the Newark Eagles of Negro National League, last week, Bill Veeck of the Indians, who negotiated the deal, went down in the books as a man who keeps his word. Veeck promised last year that he would bring up a Negro player, when, and if, he found one whom he thought could make the grade. This promise was met with a great deal of skepticism by a number of persons who heard of this pledge. Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

Veeck reiterated this statement to this writer and the managing editor of The Pittsburgh Courier, William G. Nunn, in a conference early this spring. It was at this time that the name of Doby was mentioned along with those of Monty (Muggs) Irvin, a teammate of Doby's, and leading hitter in the Negro National League last year, and Frank Austin of the Philadelphia Stars.

**HE WAS WILLING**

Veeck told us then that he had heard of these boys, but had no report of their ability. He suggested, however, that he would have them looked up. Veeck stated then that if he found a player whom he felt could make the grade, he would bring him up without any fanfare. He stated that he had personally criticized Branch Rickey, for whom he held the highest respect, both as a man and as a baseball magnet, for the manner in which he had handled Jackie Robinson. "I think he put too much pressure on Robinson through the manner in which Jackie's elevation to organized baseball has been publicized. When I find a man, I realize the spot he'll be in, and will try to ease up on this sort of pressure as much as possible. I'll handle him just like another rookie."

It was then that Veeck admitted that when he found the man he would use, he would probably place him right in a Cleveland uniform. Sat. 7-12-47

**SCOUTS WRONG**

Local newspapermen knew that Veeck was definitely interested in Doby about three weeks ago. The first scouting reports weren't too good, but Veeck remembered that his scouts hadn't turned in a satisfactory report on Jackie Robinson. They said he couldn't hit, but Jackie, at this writing, is now sixth among National League hitters, and second in the number of hits made. Only Baumholtz of Cincinnati leads him in this department.

When Bill Killifer, a highly respected judge of baseball timber, turned in his report to Veeck, Louis Jones, a member of the Indians' public relations staff, was dispatched to Newark to look further into the matter. It was at this time that newspapermen were taken into the confidence of certain Indian officials that such a deal was pending.

**KEPT IRVIN**

It has been learned that Veeck sought both Doby and "Muggs" Irvin, but Effa Manley, co-owner of the Newark Eagles, felt that the loss of both of these stars would wreck her team which is leading the National Negro League at the end of the first-half play. She agreed to sell Doby, and it is believed that Irvin will join the Indians later in the season.

When Veeck asked how much she would sell Doby's contract for, Mrs. Manley said that Veeck could name his price. Veeck said ten thousand dollars. Mrs. Manley said that she felt that this was not enough for Doby, but would not stand in his way. She told Veeck that she was surprised that Doby had not been sought before by big league baseball teams. She said she had been trying to get the New York Yankees interested for the past two years. It was later agreed by Veeck and Mrs. Manley that if Doby made the grade that he would pay her $500 more.

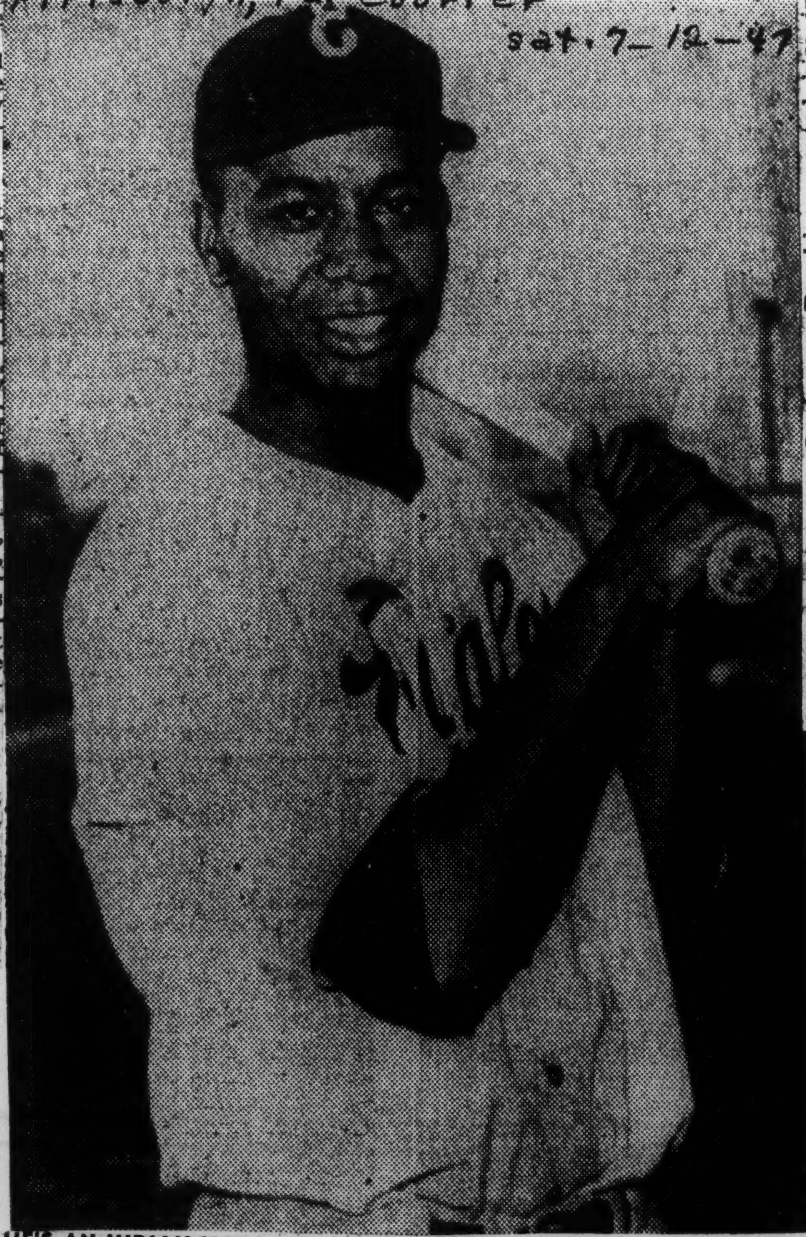
**WAS SINCERE** Sat. 7-12-47

Out of it all, we are glad that a lot of skeptics who doubted that Veeck was sincere when he made his promise, have to admit now that he is a man of his word and not just a smart businessman who sees a way to grab off a lot of publicity and makes the best of it.

According to reliable sources, the Cleveland Indians may sign a member of the Cleveland Buckeyes, Negro American League baseball leaders, Tuesday. It is reported that such action might be taken when Bill Veeck returns from Chicago Tuesday. Veeck had publicly announced that he intended to bring another Negro player up to the Indians. It was originally felt that it would be Monte Irvin, former teammate of Doby. However, rumors persist that it will be a Cleveland Buckeye. Archie Ware, star first baseman, has been rated as the outstanding player on the Buckeyes.

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

Sat. 7-12-47



**HE'S AN INDIAN NOW**—Larry Doby, brilliant infielder, said goodbye to Negro baseball last week when he joined the Cleveland Indians of the American League. Formerly with the Newark Eagles of the Negro National League, the 22-year-old star is the first Negro to play in the American League. Like Jackie Robinson, he made his debut at first base. Sat. 7-12-47

**DOBY'S RECORD**

| G. | AB. | R. | H. | 2b. | 3b. | HR. | SB. | RBI. | PO. | A. | Average |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 8 | 0 | .200 |

## Cleveland Signed Doby in Nick of Time . . . 51b

If the Cleveland Indians had waited a little longer they would have missed getting Larry Doby's signature on a contract. At the time the Indians grabbed the hard-hitting second baseman of the Newark Eagles, the Brooklyn Dodgers were trailing him night and day. Although Doby did not know it himself, the Dodgers had a scout eyeing him in every game he had played for the past three weeks. It could be that Cleveland knew the Dodgers were "hounding" the Negro second baseman and stole a march on them by "snatching" him from right under Branch Rickey's nose. Sat. 7-12-47

The Dodgers planned to sign Doby and send him to Montreal. Clay Hopper, manager of the Montreal Club, knew about Doby and had asked Rickey to sign him. On the Dodgers last trip to Chicago, Rickey dispatched a wire to his Brooklyn office and ordered his scouts to "get back on Doby's trail," and, also, to start negotiating with Mr. and Mrs. Abe Manley, owners of the Newark team, for his contract. Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

It wasn't in fact, the first time that the Dodgers had shown an interest in Doby. Last year Brooklyn scouted him in all games in which he played around New York. The scout who was assigned to him was Clyde Sukeforth, now a Dodger coach. Sukeforth was the scout who put the final okay on Jackie Robinson in 1946, when Jackie was playing with the Kansas City Monarchs.

For some unknown reason the Dodgers took their time on Doby. They probably could have signed him last year. Obviously they waited too long. Bill Veeck, the liberal and personable owner of Cleveland, has been interested in a Negro player ever since he purchased the club. He first heard of Doby last winter when Bill Nunn, managing editor of The Pittsburgh Courier, went to Cleveland and discussed the entire idea with him. At that time, Veeck assured Nunn that he wouldn't hesitate to sign a Negro player if he were good enough to make the grade. Nunn sang the praises of Doby and urged Veeck to "look the kid over real good."

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## Scouts Gave Veeck Bum Steer on One Player . . .

The Cleveland president assured Nunn that he would look Doby over. "I'm going to take particular interest in this boy," Veeck said. "You know we count a great deal on the reports of our scouts. But in this case, I'm going to supervise the whole job. Sometimes, especially in the case of Negro players, scouts don't seem to get the idea in their heads at all. For instance, I had some of our men trailing a well-known Negro player, and after looking him over they came back and told me that he just couldn't make it. They said he wouldn't hit in the majors. They also said he had too many faults to ever be a real big leaguer. You know what the player's name is? His name is Jackie Robinson! Those guys must have been nuts."

At that meeting with The Courier's managing editor, Veeck also revealed how he would place a Negro on his team. "I'm not going to do like Branch Rickey did," Veeck said. "I'm not going to sign a Negro player and then send him to a farm club. I'm going to get one I think can play with Cleveland without having to go to the minors first. And, when I do find him he's going to join the club right away. One afternoon when the team trots out on the field, a Negro player will be out there with them."

Veeck didn't stray much from those plans, either. He signed Doby and put him on the Indians without even mentioning the minors. Where Jackie Robinson had to spend a year in the International League, Doby finds himself in the majors with only Negro National League experience. He is, however, a great prospect and no one will be surprised if he crashes the lineups as a regular before long.

Ordinarily, there is a lot of grumbling in the front offices of big league clubs when another team comes along and snatches a player like the Indians snatched Doby from the Dodgers. In this case, however, there is no grumbling in Brooklyn. Instead, there is a great deal of rejoicing. The Dodger management is actually glad that Cleveland took Doby from them. Not because they weren't interested in him, but because that is just what Branch Rickey wanted to happen. He wanted some other club to sign a Negro player. It takes him off the spot. When Rickey signed Robinson there were certain owners and officials in the majors who were against the move and they did everything they could to make it uncomfortable for the Dodger president. They said he was ruining baseball; that there would be fights and riots in the parks, and they saw nothing but trouble ahead. Rickey had to fight back and also take a chance. Fortunately, he has never experienced any unpleasantness with Robinson on the club. The Dodgers are in the very thick of the pennant race and Robinson is one of the main reasons. Nothing has happened to make Rickey wish he had heeded the words of his tormentors.

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## Rickey Lost Doby, Gained Something Else . . .

When he was informed recently that the Cleveland Indians were also scouting Doby, the Brooklyn president was very pleased. "That's just fine," he said. "Maybe they'll get him, too. It certainly would be good if some other club signed a Negro player. It would help us a lot. You know, there are a lot of people in baseball who haven't gotten over the fact that we went ahead and put Robinson on our club. If someone else signs a Negro player, we'll at least have some one on our side."

Rickey is a very shrewd hombre, and it may be that he "let" the Cleveland Indians have Doby because he wanted to see some other club sign a Negro. When Doby was signed, Ri ey was as enthusiastic about it as Bill Veeck. "That's just fine," ckey said. "That's wonderful. I'm glad it has happened." That doesn't sound like an owner who has been paying his scouts to follow a player around for almost a year, only to lose the player to another team. Rickey had paid out a good bit of money scouting Doby. The Indians only scouted him for about one month. Rickey knew that Cleveland was interested in the player the first day the American League Club scouted him. He could have signed Doby then and there. But, I am sure, he let the Indians get a good look at Doby on purpose. He wanted them to sign him. When they did grab Doby, the president of the Dodgers knew he had lost a good ball player, but he gained something more. He gained a colleague in Bill Veeck. Now they won't be shooting all the ammunition at Rickey. They'll scatter their shots sending some of the volley's in the direction of Bill Veeck and the Cleveland team. *Sat. 7-12-47*

**DOTS AND DASHES AND STUFF LIKE THAT**—Louis Jones, the ex-husband of Lena Horne, played a big part in the signing of Doby. He is the assistant public relations director of the Cleveland Indians, the first Negro to hold such a job in baseball. He went to see Larry play in Trenton, N. J., two weeks ago. When he returned to Cleveland he turned in a report to Bill Veeck on Doby. Four days later Larry was wearing a Cleveland uniform . . . Maybe Negro colleges will now take baseball seriously. Jackie Robinson and Larry Doby are now earning more money than most Negro college presidents, and they are both rookies! . . . While in New York last week I called on Larry MacPhail, president of the New York Yankees. He is definitely interested in signing a Negro player . . . The Cleveland Indians will handle the hotel situation in the same manner as the Dodgers. Doby will stay at all hotels with the club where he is accepted. It he is turned down, he'll stay at Negro hotels. They only places he might encounter discrimination are in Washington, D. C., and St. Louis. He may also encounter it in Detroit . . . Cab Calloway, the Number One baseball fan of the music world is as happy about Robinson and Doby being in the majors as they are themselves.

*Daily Worker - New York, N.Y.*

# On The Score Board

### Just Before The Game at Yankee Stadimu

*Mon. 8/4/47*

By Lester Rodney

**UP TO THE** Yankee Stadium an hour before game time to pick up what we (myself and the vacationing brother Mardo) are pleased to call a "fresh column."

Not fresh as in don't-get-so-fresh, but fresh as in talking to some people in the sports world rather than sitting in the office, inserting a piece of copy paper into the machine and wondering what to be expert about today. *Daily Worker*

Coming down off the 161st Street station, none of the teeming urgency about the crowd that one finds coming out of the Prospect Park station of the BMT en route to Ebbets Field. If the Yanks lose to the Indians they're still going to breeze to the pennant. Just a lot of people on a nice Sunday going to see a good baseball team. Wonder idly how many would turn around and go home if there was a sign hanging on the station **"Joe DiMaggio isn't going to play today."**

Through the clubhouse door. There's a big sign "Press Gate" further down but no writer ever goes in there any more. It's a hold-over from last year and now just goes to dignify the free loaders getting in on passes. *Mon. 8/4/47*

An intricate labyrinth of underground passages leads one into the visiting dugout. The Indians are in the field for their batting practice session, hitting from under a big cage around home plate which holds the foul ball loss to a minimum.

The gray-clad players take a few cuts apiece, hang around the cage, throw the ball, congest the outfield heavily, kid each other, and throw their gloves into the air to deflect fly balls.

**I'm the only scribe in the Indian dugout before this game, a sure sign of the runaway nature of the American League race and the lack of particular newsworthiness right now in the athletes from all over the land who wear "Cleveland" on their shirts.**

**LOU BOUDREAU,** a great ballplayer and a somewhat terse and disappointed manager, hits a few good ones and comes into the dugout. His team has dropped a doubleheader to the Yanks the day before and he's not particularly in the mood for an expansive discussion, but it was a long ride up from 14th Street, so. . . .

"Just how good do these Yanks look to you, Lou"?

**"Hell, the standings show how good they are,"** and then a little more philosophically, **"They didn't figure this good. On paper they still don't. They picked up McQuinn, Rizzuto lifted his game and everything fell together. Some teams are made by their pitching staffs—the Yankees are the kind of team that makes a pitching staff in a way."**

Old Bill McKechnie, a gray, rotund bank clerk in a baseball suit came in from hitting fungoes and hung on the edge of the dugout, feet in the air. "Will you be able to do this at my age, Lou?"

"How good are the Yanks, Bill?" Boudreau asked. **"They're a good ball club,"** the ex National League pilot and current Indian coach said as he lowered himself to the bench, **"Maybe not as good as the teams that beat me four straight, but very good. I'll start my ball club with that DiMaggio anytime."** *Mon. 8/4/47*

Larry Doby, first Negro player to be signed in the American League, was at second base during the batting practice drill, flagging everything that came his way. When nothing came, coach Oscar Mellillo, an ex second sacker, cracked ground balls to either side of him. And when they dragged the cage away and started fielding practice, rather than come in and rest, Larry could be seen trotting out to left field and shagging flies. *New York, N.Y.*

"How does Doby look to you?" I asked Boudreau.

"It's too early to say," he replied. "It wouldn't be fair to judge a rookie on pinch hitting appearances. You have to see someone in action over a period of time. . . . Ask me again next year."

When Doby came trotting in we chatted just a minute before he hustled off with the rest of the team to the clubhouse for the final pre-game skull session. **"It's great to be out at the Stadium," he said, "even if I'm not playing yet. Many's the day I sat in those stands. . . I feel I'm learning a lot just being around, picking up little pointers you can only get here. They've been swell,"** with a nod to Boudreau, McKecknie and Mellillo.

**"I know I got things to learn,"** he finished on the run, **"but I think I'll be ready when I get a regular chance."**

As the very efficient looking Yankees took the field for infield practice, and as I fought my way out onto the street through those coming in, at least one cash customer looked at me as if I were crazy—leaving a big league ball park on a sunny Sunday ten minutes before "Play Ball."

# THROUGH THE YEARS

By FAY YOUNG

**WONDERS NEVER CEASE!**

Lawrence Eugene Doby, 22-year-old ex-seaman in the United States Navy with service in Guam and the West Carolinas in the South Pacific, alighted from a drawing room on the Pennsylvania's crack train, "The Admiral" on Saturday, July 5, and in less than three hours became the first Negro to play baseball in the American League. He signed a contract at 12 noon, donned the uniform of the Cleveland Indians.

When Doby, called "Larry" by the fans pinch-hit for Pitcher Stephens in the Cleveland seventh, with one out, and struck out, he became the second Negro to play in major league baseball in nearly 50 years—the first being Jackie Robinson, now first baseman for the Brooklyn Dodgers who served one year in the International League where he led the league in batting.

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**LARRY AFFIXED** his signature to the Indians' contract on noon Saturday. He was taken to the clubhouse by Louis Jordan Jones, assistant public relations director of the Cleveland Indians and the only Negro holding such a job in the world. Jones introduced Larry to Lou Boudreau, shortstop and manager of the Indians. He then took him to Mel Harder, veteran and dean of the Indians' pitching staff as well as the Indians' players' spokesman.

51b 1947

Stanley Evans

*Stanley Evans, center, flanked by two members of the New York Americans, George Karbone, left and George Krakow, right.*

# The Party He's Been Looking for

The Worker N.Y., N.Y.

Sat. 6-15-47

**By LESTER RODNEY**

THIS is about a rather amazing personality.

It's about a talented all-round Negro athlete who has spent a good part of his life successfully using his talents to break down discrimination against his people.

His name is Stanley Evans, but he will be better remembered by sports followers in New Haven and up around Boston as Buddy Hunt, baseball player and manager, marathon runner, boxer and basketball player par excellence.

He's "somewhere in his 40's," but looks considerably younger, especially crouched behind the bat with a big catcher's mitt on his left hand.

Stanley was the first Negro on more than one white ball club, the first Negro to run the gruelling 26-mile marathon under the colors of the famous Dorchester Club of Boston, organizer of mixed semi-pro ball clubs, and today is co-owner, manager, alternate pitcher and catcher ... New York Americans, a fast inter-racial team with a big following in the Bronx.

He also happens to be an accomplished musician, and, as his active athlete life comes toward a halt, he devotes increasing time to that field.

### Starts Reading Our Paper

Sat. 6-15-47

Somewhere along the line it became natural for this crusader against discrimination to start looking at the only daily paper in the country whose sports page campaigned against Jimcrow, and to start thinking about the only political party that fought the same good fight and also pointed the way to a future society in which discrimination could have no place.

"I suppose I was always what you would call progressive," he says, "I never knew what side to fall on, Republican, Democratic, this one said this, the other said that. I had heard about the bad reds on the newspapers and radio but when I looked closer I saw the party and the program I had always been looking for." "Then," he smiled, "It just seemed natural for me to join that party. So I joined last January."

Over the years Stanley Evans has acquired a lot of friends in the sports and music world, both Negro and white, friends with a deep respect for his courage and integrity. It also "seemed natural" for him to tell his friends about the Communist Party.

**In the current recruiting drive Stanley Evans has brought 51 new members into the Party. "And I aim to bring in lots more," he says in all modesty. He's systematic.**

Among the projects turning over in his mind is the formation of a Communist Party baseball team—a good one, he hastens to add.

### Played on Best Negro Teams

In his younger days Evans played on some of the best Negro teams, including the Providence Royal Giants and the famed Boston Tigers, now the Monarchs, and was offered a tryout with the New York Black Yankees. But, he says:

"I always had in mind inter-racial teams. Sports fans are sportsmen and always greeted the sight of Negro and white together so well that I knew sports could do a lot of good along these lines."

It worked both ways for Evans. When, at one juncture of his long baseball career, he managed the Boston Blue Sox, an All-Negro team, he brought in some white players. One of them, Stanley Stamitello, later went right on up in organized baseball, playing for Hartford in the Eastern League.

As Jackie Robinson knows, though the majority of white players and fans, given a chance to do so, show their basic democratic feelings, it isn't always smooth sailing to buck old traditions and ingrained prejudices. Stanley recalls an early incident when he was signed by the manager of a team in Arlington, Mass., on the basis of his record. When he reported, several of the leading players of the team refused to play with a Negro. The manager of the team told them to get another manager, saying he believed in democracy if they didn't.

### A Story Of Discrimination

Sat. 6-15-47

The story has a little sequel. "I went on the Sacred Heart Holy Name team of East Boston," Stanley recalled. "There was a Father Lenihan there in the late 20's who encouraged me. I became the first Negro to play for that team, which had a huge following in Boston. And sure enough, we were scheduled to play Arlington." He smiled at the memory. "We licked 'em three straight in a home and home series. Yes, I did pretty well. A couple of the Arlington boys must of been ashamed. They made it a point to act friendly. A couple didn't."

His spectacular amateur boxing career in Connecticut was cut short just when he was considering turning pro. "My wife," he grinned, "she liked baseball, but not fighting. I'm just as satisfied at her decision."

He has a son of 22 and a daughter of 21 and, as you might suspect, neither is very much interested in sports. **"The boy can draw very well, though," the father says, "and the girl is quite musical."**

# State Nixes Jimcrow Bowl

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

After a reported visit by the Miami Orange Bowl Committee, Penn State authorities yesterday said flatly, "No bowl games for use." The Florida crowd had tried to talk unbeaten State into leaving its two Negro stars at home in the event of an invite. Team and student body last year angrily insisted on a cancellation of a regularly scheduled game with Miami U. last year for the same reason. 11-13-47

## Negroes on Squad; All-Stars Cancel Game

GREENVILLE, S. C.—(ANP)—A football game between the Brookland-Cayce All-Stars, white, and the Greenville Army Air Base squad was cancelled here last week when the Army eleven showed up on B-C High School field with five Negro players. Even the fans' reactions were against the All-Stars playing a mixed team, many spectators leaving the field, and others signifying their intentions of demanding their money back if the Negroes played.

The B-C teams is composed of former high school and college football stars. According to Hiram Manual, business manager, no mention had been made of Negro players on the opposing team when the two groups agreed to a match. He said, however, that when final arrangements were being completed, the question of Negro players was brought up by the Greenville representative. Manuel said he told the representative he could not say whether Negroes would be allowed to play, but that they could come along with the team.

The B-C team learned of the mixed setup just before game time. At first they voted not to play the game, but then decided to go through with it, if the fans did not object. However, the fans did object when an announcement was made over the public address system. Approximately 800 persons were in the stands at the game. Sat. 11-15-47

## Race Discrimination In Big Six Football

Des Moines Register — Mon.

To the Editor:

I am sending a report by the committee of racial discrimination composed of Robert Miller and Jean Kroeger as representatives of Cardinal Guild (Iowa State college's student governing body) and myself, Dale Ortmeyer, as a representative of the Iowa State Chapter of the American Veterans Committee.

The rules and regulations of the Missouri Valley Intercollegiate Athletic Association concerning racial discrimination should be made known to the public. By means of stirring up public sentiment, we hope to influence the members of the Big Six conference to change these rules.—**Dale Ortmeyer, 3014 West st., Ames, Ia.**

Des Moines Register

*EDITOR'S NOTE: The report referred to above follows:* 11-17-47 Sun.

At the request of the Iowa State Chapter of the American Veterans Committee, Cardinal Guild (Iowa State college's student governing body) passed the following resolution. Resolved: That Cardinal Guild favors equal opportunity in athletic events governed by the Missouri Valley Intercollegiate Athletic Association. (Commonly known as the Big Six.)

The national and the Iowa State Chapter's policy of the AVC, stated Dale Ortmeyer, representative of AVC, is in complete agreement with the resolution passed by Cardinal Guild. Des Moines Register

Section 5, Article III of the rules and regulations of the Big Six states: "In each institution of the conference the personnel of athletic squads shall be determined in accordance with the laws of the sovereign state, regulations imposed by said institution's governing body, and the rules and regulations of the conference, and the personnel of visiting squads shall be so selected as to conform with any restrictions imposed upon a host institution by the sovereign authority, or the authorities that govern said host institution." 11-17-47

The state laws of Missouri and Oklahoma forbid entrance of colored persons to the Universities of Missouri and Oklahoma. However, the rules of the Big Six are so stated that the personnel of visiting squads must be selected to confirm to restrictions of the authorities governing the host institution.

Dr. H. D. Bergman, Iowa State's representative to the Big Six stated that it is the policy of the Big Six that a visiting school will not use a colored athlete when Missouri or Oklahoma is the host institution. However, he asserted, it is the policy of Iowa State's athletic department not to discriminate against any individual. Dr. Bergman stated further that he would present the resolution of Cardinal Guild's at the December meeting of the Big Six conference.

## She Is Disturbed by Racial Prejudices

To the Editor: Des Moines Register

The article in The Register, Nov. 10, stating the stand of the University of Wisconsin concerning co-ed Iris Alexander, was indeed surprising as well as interesting. If Iris were an officer in the Betterment of Social Relations group, and was attending a university function for the betterment of understanding and relations of the Negroes and white students, then it would look as if her landlady were guilty of racial prejudice in ordering her out of her rooming quarters. 11-17-47

Personally, I do not approve of mixing dates or marriages of the two races, but with so much unjustness concerning the colored race, it is high time that we as a nation quit dodging the issue with mere "regrets" as President E. B. Fred did. Mon

We in Iowa are especially disturbed at present because of the racial prejudice at Pacific Junction. Mon

When will Americans cease being unfair to the race whose boys fought side by side by our race and have produced Booker T. Washingtons, Carvers, Dunbars, Marian Andersons and many others?—**Mrs. E. B. Stewart, Riverton, Ia.**

# White AAF Commander Calls off Game After Attempt to Bar 4 Aces

Afro-American, Baltimore Md.

COLUMBIA, S.C.—Because the commanding officer (white) at the Army Air Base at Greenville, S.C. stood his ground against racial discrimination, the more that 1,500 whites who turned out to see their local professional football team, Brookland-Cayce, went home Tuesday night disappointed.

Officials of the Brookland-Cayce professionals explained to reporters that whe nthe agreement to play with Army Air Base team was made several weeks ago, nothing was said about several colored players being on the team. The day of the game, however, the fact came to light and the Base commandig officer, otherwise unidentified, informed the local team that the colored players were a regular part of the air base eleven and that they would play in the game or there would be none.

The matter was left there with the local men promising to take it up with their players, all of whom are graduates of South Carolina white colleges.

*Players Relax, Fans Don't*

At first the players opposed a mixed game, the officials said, but later relaxed the position after recalling that Virginia University had played Harvard a few weeks ago, a colored player being on the Cambridge team and, that just three weeks ago a white professional team at Charlotte had played the Staten Island Staple-tons who had three colored players. During the reconsideration note was also taken of the great parts Buddy Young and other colored grid stars are playing in spearheading mixed teams.

The question was then placed before the spectators, who adhering to custom, summarily rejected it.

With the Greenville team on the scene, a last ditch effort to have the colored players benched failed when the officer in charge of the air base players telephoned his commanding officer and was issued an ored which said in effect:

"If they won't play against the colored members of the team, then bring the whole squad back to the base." Nov. 8-47

*Team Goes Home*

The four colored players, whose names were not released, packed into the air base bus and the entire outfit departed before the bewildered eyes of the local fans who just couldn't believe such a thing would happen in South Carolina where state law prohibits mixed sporting events.

The irony in the Tuesday night fiasco is that it occurred in West Columbia where one week before the all-white post of the American Legion, to which a colored veteran cannot belong in South Carolina, conducted military and other honors for George Ernest Jones, a 17-year-old colored sailor, whose remains had been returned there for burial after he had died a heroic death in fighting as they lost 2-1.

51b 1947 General

# On the Scoreboard

By Lester Rodney

*Daily Worker*

**HOW ABOUT THE** Negro National League? What effect has the first breaking of big league Jimcrow had on it, if any? Is it true as some say that the Negro owners age against the big leagues taking ball players from them? I found Mrs. Effa Manley, owner of the championship Newark Eagles, sitting behind home plate well back in the lower grandstands of the Polo Grounds. Her team was playing the New York Cubans of the same league in a pre-season exhibition.

The upper stands were closed off and about 6,000 fans were packed around the best downstairs seats. Across the river the Yanks were playing the Senators and down in Brooklyn it was the Dodgers and the Giants.

**The two Negro leagues were born fourteen years ago out of Jimcrow and a supply of talented, frustrated athletes. Many players good enough to play in the big leagues have come and gone, some jump to Mexico, Cuba and Venezuela for more money than the Negro magnates can pay and the greatest of them all was a man named Satchel Paige who was born too soon to be known as the best big league pitcher of all time but will surely be remembered as the best by all who saw him in his prime.**

The teams in the Negro leagues generally hire major and minor league ball parks at a goodly rental when the home clubs are away and though they play in comparative obscurity, with hardly any mention in the regular press they draw surprisingly large crowds, about 85 percent Negro. Disconnected from the methodical training, conditioning and experiences of the big leagues, the caliber of play is uneven but exciting and on the whole approximate that of a good Class A minor league.

Mrs. Manley, a handsome woman in her forties who owns the Eagles for eleven years, was glad to talk about things to a reporter though she's so intent a fan it became judicious to ask questions only between innings when the teams were changing positions.

## Knows Her Baseball

**BEFORE TALKING** of Robinson, the Dodgers and the feelings of the Negro club owners it was natural enough to chat about the teams and the game down on the field in front of us.

"We have some rookies this year," she said as the young looking 3d baseman bobbled one momentarily before throwing out the batter, "And I don't know how they'll come out. That youngster on third came from a small town in Florida and he's never seen a city or baseball field or a crowd this big."

The regular 3d baseman, a well known star named Pat Patterson, teaches at Houston College, reports late, leaves before the season ends and Mrs. Manley had a nice story about him.

**"Last fall we were playing Kansas City (of the Western Negro League) in our World Series and Pat flew up one weekend for the deciding game. His plane was late and he got to the ballpark in the 3d inning. It was like a movie the way he came onto the field and the crowd got up and cheered like mad—everybody seemed to know he was flying in!"**

She spoke with most enthusiasm ("he has everything!") of Monte Irvin, Newark centerfielder who led the league in '46 with a rousing .389 and who poled out two singles and a home run this day. She also liked Larry Dobie, second baseman who would look sweet on several big league clubs I could (and will) mention.

A 6 foot 3 righthander named Max Manning who came out of the Navy to win eleven and lose one last summer spun out a scoreless one hit five inning stint while we talked. He showed speed, a good curve and impeccable control and I wouldn't want to insult all the earnest young men of the Giant "pitching staff" but. . . .

## Of Ex-GIs

**MRS. MANLEY** had stories to tell of many of the players. Not in the real upper brackets of the big league owners, she has a closer personal and fan interest in her team than you'll find in a Topping, Crosley or Briggs. When catcher Parks, no young man, hustled behind first base to back up a throw she exclaimed:

**"Look at him hustle! When he came out of the Army last year he couldn't play worth two cents. His nerves were bad. He had all kinds of war records, saving men under fire, getting medals and such things . . . most of the boys are ex-GIs."**

At one point during the game a roar went up that puzzled us as nothing was happening on the field. Then we saw the "2" go up on the scoreboard for the Dodgers against the Giants. Though most of the fans present came from nearby Harlem they were for the Dodgers this season of 1947.

"We're going to play at Ebbets Field this year," Mrs. Manney said, "Our first series there is May 30 and I hope some white fans come out to see us."

Which led to the big question . . . and its answer.

"I can certainly speak for myself," she said with decided emphasis, **"I'm all for it. Branch Rickey is to be congratulated. I wouldn't be selfish enough to stand in the way of any player who could better himself. Why three of my best, Day, Ruffin and Dandridge, went to Mexico this season to take good offers and I was happy for them.**

"I don't think we'd have to worry about players if other teams followed Brooklyn's example," she went on, "Opening more opportunity makes more players. Did you know all the Negro colleges are having baseball teams for the first time?

"I personally feel we have built up a following who prefer our league and game regardless, but it would be a wonderful thing to see full equality of opportunity in the big leagues. All we would want would be a fair price for the players—just as the minor leagues get. Players represent considerable investments."

**And there was the answer to the question that brought me to the Polo Grounds. As to how the players themselves feel about the chance to move up and make big league dough, just ask them. I did.**

# Social Survey Sees Ending of Baseball Jimcrow Possible

*Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Thurs. 2-6-47*

Southern big league ball players who threaten to "quit" would actually do nothing of the sort if Negro players joined their teams, is one of the conclusions of a six months survey conducted by the City College Social Research Laboratory.

The report, released yesterday, says that the attitudes of baseball fans generally and of Northern ball players is favorable toward full Negro participation in our national pastime.

The conclusions are based on a detailed study revolving around the advent of Jackie Robinson and four other Negro players into organized baseball last summer.

Based on interviews with players involved, it notes that most big league players come from the south and many expressed vague hostility to the idea of playing with Negroes. In the case of Robinson at Montreal it says, his popularity grew with his achievements and he acquired a large personal following. "Somehow, the unwritten law collapsed in the face of Robinson and his athletic status," the report adds.

Southern players with persistent hostile attitudes, the report says, would do little more than grumble silently, for fear of losing popularity in a game where there are a large number of applicants for big league berths.

Typical of northern players' reaction is this remark gathered during conversations with members of the Brooklyn Dodgers:

**"If Robinson is good enough to play major league ball and can help the team, then it is all right with us. If he is good, we would rather he be on our team than on one we play against."**

**Breakdown of segregation and race prejudice in organized baseball is "feasible and imminent," the report concludes, and "because of the conspicuous position of professional baseball in an era of booming sports, the results of establishing equal opportunities for Negroes in organized baseball would be significant for better race relations in general."**

**A copy of the report has been requested by baseball commissioner Albert Chandler.**

# In This Corner

## That Exhibition Game In Puerto Rico

—By Bill Mardo—

**HERE'S SOMETHING** for Larry MacPhail to chew on. His Yankees, training in Puerto Rico, played a Sunday exhibition game against the Caguas club and won by a 6-4 count. But that's not the story. This is. Bucky Harris later saying: "That first pitcher gave us trouble. Even though we made five runs we didn't really pound him."

*Tuesday 2-25-47*

An afternoon paper in New York had the following: **"The Bombers looked sluggish beating the Caguas pros 6-4 yesterday, but Harris explained that Dan Bankhead, a Negro right-hander was really fast and gave the Yankee hitters trouble . . . nobody was getting a good piece of the ball."**

John Drebinger of the Times had this for a second paragraph on the same game. **"The Peurto Ricans, who this time started a team composed wholly of Negro stars, opened with a pitcher named Dan Bankhead and for three innings this right-hander, with blazing speed and a tantalizing screwball, held the Bombers to a bunt."**

LARRY MacPHAIL

Another scribe said: "**The end of the story might have been different if Bankhead had received decent support from the field.**"

So that's it, friends. A Negro pitcher with a wide assortment of stuff stole the spotlight from the great Yankees in an early Spring training game. A pitcher who plays for the Memphis Red Sox during the regular season here in the States, and with a Puerto Rican club in the winter. A pitcher who is denied his crack at the big leagues because of his color.

**This Don Bankhead has a brother named Sammy who played second-base for the Pittsburgh Crawfords and was one of the finest keystoners who ever graced a ballfield.**

Both Bankheads, and all the other Negro stars of yesterday and today are still on the outside looking in. Why? Because Larry MacPhail, owner of the ballclub which was bamboozled by Don Bankhead's slants the other day, has for years double-talked his way out of signing Negro talent. Because of pig-headed reactionaries like Clark Griffith and Horace Stoneham and all the others who paid little attention when the late Judge Kenesaw Landis gave them the green light to end the unwritten jimcrow ban. And who later looked the other way when Branch Rickey signed five Negro players to the Dodger farm system last season.

**Yes, Spring Training is most interesting this season. For the Yanks are playing against Negro stars in Puerto Rico . . . and the Dodgers will be doing likewise in Havana. You'll probably be reading many times over before the pre-season conditioning concludes, about Negro players on local Havana or Puerto Rican teams who will look good against the fabulous Yanks and Dodgers in one or another exhibition game.**

And all this should only serve to get sports fans angrier than ever that so many of these fine ballplayers are denied their rightful opportunities in the majors. All this should only serve to get Yankee and Giant fans hotter than ever on the idea of building a fire under MacPhail and Stoneham, and compelling them to live up to the Ives-Quinn law which makes discrimination in industry unlawful in New York State.

**"Play Ball!" is right around the corner. Let's not lose any time, fans.**

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Yes, the wheels do move. The Rankins try to hold it back but it doesn't work. It's a dying cause. Why? Well, come out to the Stadium tonight and find out. It'll be exhibited quite simply. A big, warming round of applause when the names of Thompson and Brown are announced in the starting lineups . . . and then the settling down to watch another ballgame. That's all. 57b gen.

But it speaks for a lot. Much more than the Sunday base-hit and stolen base racked up by Willard Brown in the first of two wins over Boston. And much more than Henry Thompson's rally-starting single in the third inning of the second game, and game-winning single in the sixth. Tues. 7-22-47

It speaks for so very much more.

Daily Worker New Yorker, N.Y.

**OF COURSE, Thompson and Brown aren't quite the only reason to take that Bronx express tonight. The Yanks are home, nine and one-half games to the front, with a pennant all but sewed up and if that isn't important then I don't know what. And wasn't that quite a western swing my boys just finished, hmm? Twelve wins out of 15 hinterland stops, and without aces Shea and Chandler. I imagine the rest of the loop finds that a most discomforting thought. Can't you just see Boston and Detroit playing .800 ball from here in to overtake the Yanks? I can't.** Tues. 7-22-47

Friends, we're in.

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Birmingham, Ala., News
July 4, 1947

# Veeck Says There's Wide-Open Scramble For Negro Players

CLEVELAND, July 4—(AP)—President Bill Veeck of the Cleveland Indians says a wide-open major league scramble for star Negro players is under way and he wants to get the best. 51b gen.

Commenting to newsmen on his signing of Larry Doby, an infielder with the Newark Eagles of the Negro National League, Veeck said last night:

"Robinson (Jackie Robinson of the Brooklyn Dodgers, the only Negro in the National League) has proved to be a real big leaguer, so I wanted to get the best of the available Negro boys while the grabbing was good. Why wait?"

Veeck decided his first grab would be 22-year-old Doby, who can play any position in the infield or outfield and has a season's batting average of .458. He will report tomorrow.

Although Doby will be the first Negro American Leaguer and the second of his race ever to be signed by a major league club, Veeck views it as part of a trend.

"WITHIN 10 YEARS," he declared, "Negro players will be in regular service with big league teams."

To the excited new Indian, it still was dream stuff.

In an interview at Patterson, N. J., Doby said he wasn't sure whether he was "more surprised than excited, or more excited than surprised."

"It's a big jump from our league to the majors, but I think I can make it."

Then he added: That if he didn't, "It'll not be because I did not try. It always has been my ambition to play big league ball, but I never thought I would make it."

The bleacherites, scanning the Indians' strong second base combination, wondered what Manager Lou Boudreau would do with his latest acquisition.

Boudreau answered that one by saying the purchase was routine and that Doby would be given a "thorough trial."

One Indian official said whether Doby played regular depended upon his hitting.

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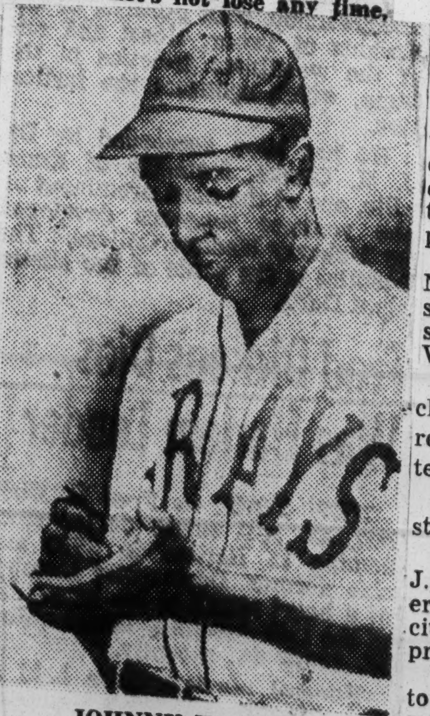
# Royals Release
Afro-American
# Johnny Wright
Baltimore, Md.
51b

By SAM LACY

HAVANA, Cuba. — Official announcement of the outright release of Johnny Wright was made here Wednesday by Clay Hopper, manager of the Montreal Royals.

Wright, one-time pitching ace of the Homestead Grays and the second man of his race to be signed to a contract in modern organized baseball, was cut loose at the close of the 1946 Canadian-American League season, Hopper stated. Sat. 3-8-47

The slender right-hander made the trip North with the Royals at the end of last year's spring training. After six weeks of regular season play, however, he was farmed to the Three Rivers Club in Canada, a Class C team, where he finished the season with a not-too-impressive record.



JOHNNY WRIGHT

Lack of control and loss of confidence in himself, were given by Hopper as reasons for Wright's failure to make good. — LACY.

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# Tom Meany:

## Ability Should Decide Success in Baseball

51b gen.

PM New York, N.Y. Sun. 7-20-47

There are today four Negroes signed to major league baseball contracts and a year ago there was none. This newspaper, aggressive and articulate during the entire seven years of its existence for the elimination of baseball's color line, should be pleased. Instead, PM is withholding judgment until such time as it can be proved that the Negro players signed by the Indians and the Browns were signed for their baseball ability, rather than for their box office tug.

Branch Rickey was emphatic back in October 1945 when he signed Jackie Robinson to a Brooklyn farm contract, in his declaration that he was signed because scouting reports convinced Rickey that Jackie could help Montreal and eventually the Dodgers. Montreal won the International League pennant and playoffs last season and the Little World Series and the Dodgers are in first place today, an indication that the judgment of the scouts was good.

Rickey was sincere in his statement that Robinson was entitled to a fair trial on his baseball ability. Undoubtedly, the Mahatma meant it when he said the Negro was entitled to the privileges, as well as the responsibilities, of citizenship. He deserved credit for going through with his daring experiment, in the face of sneers from fellow club operators, who privately called him a carpetbagger.

**Case of Doby** Sun.
**Still in Doubt** 7-20-47

Bill Veeck, president of the Indians, is a past master at showmanship, but he insisted that Larry Doby was signed as a ball player, not as a box office attraction. So far, Doby has not been impressive, but he hasn't seen sufficient action for judgment to be passed.

The case of the Browns is different. They are wallowing in the American League cellar, with little chance of ever escaping, 6 1-2 games behind the seventh place club. They aren't drawing at all. It would be easy for them of exploitation in signing two Negroes, Willard Brown and Henry Thompson, and taking an option on a third, Lorenzo Davis.

If baseball magnates, in an effort to hype fading box office receipts, sign Negroes as freaks, rather than as ball players, they are doing themselves, as well as Negroes, a tremendous disservice. This is just what the prejudiced want, the chance to needle the bigots by spreading the propaganda that Negroes will dominate baseball in a few years.

***Better Opportunity For Negro Baseball***

Actually, there are not many Negroes of major league caliber in the country. A half-dozen would be a fair estimate. There was little incentive for Negroes to give their lives to baseball, because they never could get beyond their own leagues. Now that Jackie Robinson has demonstrated that a Negro can play in the majors, Negro baseball undoubtedly will improve within the next few years. Sun. 7-20-47

Robinson is one of four major leaguers who had made more than 100 base hits at the last reading. The others were Frank Gustine, Pirates; George Kell, Detroit; and the Yankee Clipper, Joe DiMaggio. There is a place in major league baseball for any Negro who can play as well as Robbie, but there **shouldn't be any place for the Negro whose talents aren't sufficient** and who is put in a major league uniform merely as a novelty to excite the curious. And there shouldn't be any place in baseball for executives who exploit Negroes, either.

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51b 1947 General

## NEW OUTFIELDERS WHO HAVE BEEN SIGNED BY THE BROWNS

Sat. 7-19-47

New York, N.Y. Times Sat. 7-19-47

Henry Thompson (left) and Willard Brown (right) with Manager Muddy Ruel in St. Louis on Thursday night after they donned their new uniforms. They came from the Kansas City Monarchs.

# St. Louis Browns Sign 2 Negro Stars, Option on 3d

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

By Lester Rodney Fri. 7-18-47

The St. Louis Browns yesterday signed the third and fourth Negro players to wear major league uniforms and optioned still another. On hand for last night's game were Willard Brown and Henry Thompson, outfielder and infielder, respectively, of the Kansas City Monarchs. Optioned was Lorenzo (Piper) Davis of the Birmingham Black Barons, listed by the Daily Worker yesterday along with Thompson as a big league prospect. Thompson's purchase is bad news for Philly fans, who had hoped cautious Herb Pennock would get on the dime and buy the slugging shortstop.

Davis, who follows Jackie Robinson of Brooklyn and Larry Doby of Cleveland into the big leagues, is 25 years old, a strapping 175-pound six-footer rated an exceptional fielder and dependable hitter. He is currently batting a robust .361 for the Birmingham team, which is a member of the Negro American League. He lives in Fairfield, Alabama, an industrial suburb of Birmingham. Like Robinson and Doby he is an all round athlete, playing basketball with the famed Harlem Globe Trotters in the winters. Fri. 7-18-47

In any case the announcement was a major blow to those still fighting against the introduction of democracy to organized baseball. They had insisted that St. Louis and Washington would never sign Negro players.

Branch Rickey, Brooklyn president who made the first breakthrough against Jimcrow by signing Robinson to the Dodgers this year, had predicted that in a short time all teams, including St. Louis, would sign Negro players.

The Browns, who have won but one pennant in their entire existence, are having one of their worst seasons. They have won 28 games and lost 50, and are a bad last, 26 games behind the league leading Yankees and 7 behind the seventh place Washington Senators. Interest in the team has lagged, with as few as 458 paying customers turning out for one afternoon game.

Because of the poor attendance, there has been some talk of transferring the Browns' franchise to Los Angeles. The purchase of Davis indicates a determined effort by the Browns to recapture favor with the fans. A strong factor in the dramatic move may well have been the exceptionally large turnouts at Sportsmans Park in St. Louis for the games between the Cards and the Brooklyn Dodgers, with unprecedented applause for a visiting player going to Jackie Robinson.

Chief scout of the Browns is Jack Fournier, a popular home run slugger for the Brooklyn Dodgers in the '20s. Fri. 7-18-47

# Minor training best bet for Negroes pulling major grade

Los Angeles, Calif. Sat. 7-26-47

By ALOYSIOUS TOO

The Dodgers did it the right way when they hired Jackie Robinson, but the outfits following suit by hiring Negroes seem more interested in the attendant publicity than they are in seeing their new players make good.

As things like that should go, Robinson was hired by the Brooklyn Dodgers and packed off to the minors for a little seasoning and sharpening. He and six others. By the first season's end, some had fallen by the wayside, some were holding their own with promise, and Robinson gleamed with talent all along the road. Sat. 7-26-47

Maybe Jackie could have made good right off the bat in the majors, but it isn't the customary way the business is run. Greats like Ted Williams and Joe DiMaggio came up through the minors, like a 1000 before them, and were taking their best shots at success doing so.

Since the Dodgers sent tradition by the board by hiring Robinson, two other teams, the Cleveland Indians and St. Louis Browns, have hired themselves Negro ballplayers. Cleveland lifted Larry Doby from the Negro world champion Newark Eagles; and St. Louis bought Willard Brown and Henry Thompson from the many-time champion Kansas City Monarchs. All three were slapped into suits and started on their major league way.

It's hard to say what these players think of the deal. No doubt they're rightfully proud of the honor, but an even larger pride awaits them making good. Maybe they want it the way it came, but it is the hard way of making the grade on the bigtime.

Besides this, if the clubs are just looking for a gate-receipt booster, they'll find the take at the door diminishing overnight, if these players don't make good. And the players will find themselves on the way out. Sat. 7-26-47

Robinson has proved that a Negro player can make good in the majors, just like the next guy. And it seems that since the Indians and Browns were sports enough to give Brown, Thompson, and Doby the same chance, they'd be doing all parties and the gate the greatest good by giving these players a chance to capitalize on their chance. They'd send them of to the minors, groom them slow and sure, and then bring them up on the bigtime.

# Browns Sign Up Negro Stars

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 7-26-47

### St. Louis Club Also Holds 30-Day Option on Lorenzo (Piper) Davis, Hard-hitting Infielder of Birmingham Black Barons

By KERMITT K. WHEELER

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — Hefty Henry Thompson and big Willard Brown were a long way from home last Wednesday night—away up in Madison, Wis., playing with the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro-American League. But, they were even farther away from ever playing in the major leagues. At least they thought that as they trotted out on the field to play with their mates against a local white team.

Today they are both playing with the St. Louis Browns!

The third and fourth Negro players, respectively, to crash the ranks of the majors this year, Brown has been roaming the outfield, while Thompson has been stationed at second base.

**IGNORED LOCALITY**

The news of their signing was as surprising as it was sensational. St. Louis is a Southern city and it was the concensus of opinion that neither the Browns or their National League cousins, the Cardinals, would be interested in Negro players because of the locality. But apparently Richard Muckerman, president of the club, and William DeWitt, general manager, were more concerned about trying to lift the lowly Browns in the league standings than the geographical position of their ball park. Sat. 7-26-47

On Wednesday night, July 16, Thompson and Brown received a telegram from DeWitt instructing them to report to St. Louis immediately. They arrived at St. Louis' Lambert Field airport the following afternoon and were immediately whisked to the Brown's offices, where they signed contracts in the presence of DeWitt and Jacques Fournier, the Browns scout who had trailed them for a considerable time in an effort to determine whether they were ready for the big leagues.

**BOTH PLAYERS HAPPY**

"This is the happiest day of my life," Thompson told The Courier, after signing. "I've always wanted to play in the big leagues."

Brown was also enthusiastic and said he never thought he'd ever reach the majors. "I have spent the past ten years playing baseball," he said. "I never dreamed I'd be this lucky."

Following the signing of Brown and Thompson, the St. Louis club announced that they were taking a thirty-day option on Lorenzo (Piper) Davis, lanky infielder of the Birmingham Black Barons, whom they have been scouting for some time. It is presumed that Davis will be called up after Thompson and Brown have adjusted themselves to their new environment.

**WILL DO BETTER**

Since being signed, Thompson has participated in four games for the Browns and at this writing is hitting .187, while Brown has been in three and is hitting .091. Those averages are not impressive of course, but Manager Muddy Ruel is of the opinion that they will hit better "after they get their bearings."

Brown is 26 years of age, 5 feet 11 inches in height and weighs 200 pounds. He has been with the Kansas City Monarchs for eight years. Formerly a shortstop, he was converted into an outfielder about four years ago by Manager Frank Duncan of Kansas City. When he left the Monarchs he was hitting .332 and had four home runs to his credit in Negro American League competition. Born in Shreveport, La., Brown was graduated from Central High School, where he was an all-round star in athletics. He is married and has a 4-year-old son. He now lives in Kansas City, Mo. Sat 7-26-47

**THOMPSON A YOUNGSTER**

Thompson was one of the best young players in Negro baseball. A native of Dallas, Tex., he is 21 years old and while at Booker T. Washington High School in Dallas, starred in football and baseball. His family moved to Los Angeles and the fleet-footed youngster made a name for himself in high school there in both football and baseball. He joined the Monarchs as a shortstop at the age of 17 and later was shifted to the outfield. When he left the Monarchs he was hitting .346 in Negro American League competition and had hit eight home runs. He lives in Los Angeles and has a 4-year-old son.

Richard Muckerman, wealthy owner of the team, said that he signed the two Negro stars because they have the ability. "We will sign any player we think is better than those we have. We feel Brown and Thompson can help our club."

General Manager DeWitt said, "the move was made in an effort to strengthen our club and in our opinion, Brown and Thompson will be assets."

Harold (Muddy) Ruel, the St. Louis manager, said Brown and Thompson will be given every chance to make good. "If the front office feels these players can help the ball club, then I am willing to see that they get a fair chance. That applies to all players signed by the Browns."

Three of the St. Louis players who gave the Negro rookies a welcome hand when they walked into the dressing room Thursday night were Vern Stephens, shortstop; Jeff Heath, leftfielder, and John Berardino, second baseman, who has been out lately with an injury. They played with Bob Feller's All-Stars last fall and against Brown and Thompson, who played with Satchel Paige's All-Stars.

"Thompson is a good ball player," Stephens said. "He knows how to hit the ball and fields well."

The signing of Brown and Thompson makes a total of four Negroes in the majors. The other two are Jackie Robinson of Brooklyn and Larry Doby of Cleveland. Robinson was signed by Brooklyn on April 10 and Doby by Cleveland on July 3.

Of the four Negroes in the majors, three have graduated from the Kansas City Monarchs, Robinson, Brown and Thompson. Doby came up from the Newark Eagles.

## Crowds Increase At Browns' Park

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. 51D

**ST. LOUIS—The addition of two Negro players to the St. Louis Browns has meant more money at the gate, something the club's management has been seeking for a long time. Brown and Thompson were signed by St. Louis on Thursday. That night the club drew 3,648 fans. The next night, after the news had spread across the country, the attendance almost doubled. The Browns drew 6,045 fans that night.**

**Here is the attendance record for the past six days:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Monday | 480 |
| Tuesday | 3,503 |
| *Wednesday | 4,270 |
| **Thursday | 3,648 |
| Friday | 6,045 |
| Saturday | 2,434 |
| *Sunday | 7,633 |

Sat. 7-26-47

***—Twi-night doubleheader.**

****—Thompson and Brown joined club.**

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

**NEW MEMBERS OF BROWNS**—Henry Thompson, left, Manager Muddy Ruel, and Willard Brown sitting in St. Louis Browns' dugout before recent game. Thompson and Brown, formerly of the Kansas City Monarchs joined St. Louis last week and they became the third and fourth Negroes to crash the major leagues this season. Brown has been playing the outfield, while Thompson has been stationed at second.—International News Photo.

## BROWNS DROP 2 NEGROES

N.Y. Times, N.Y. 51D

### Thompson and Willard Brown Are Released Unconditionally

Sun. 8-24-47

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 23 (AP)—Henry Thompson and Willard J. Brown, negro players purchased by the Browns last July 17, were released unconditionally at the end of today's game with the Athletics.

A spokesman for the club said the two men had failed to reach major league standards. Thompson, a second baseman, batted .256, while Brown, an outfielder, hit .162.

Both players were bought from the Negro American League's Kansas City Monarchs. They were the third and fourth negroes to join major league clubs. Sun. 8-24-47

At the same time Thompson and Brown were purchased the St. Louis club bought an option on another negro, infielder Lorenzo Davis of the Birmingham Black Barons, but dropped the option a few weeks later.

# WHITE MAN'S VIEWS

Even Deep South Must Take Hint As to Significance of Major League Negro Players

51D Pittsburgh Courier

**By TED Le BERTHON**

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

Pittsburgh, Pa.

**N**OW that the Cleveland Indians have signed Larry Doby to play first base for them, there are going to be more and more Negroes in major league baseball, all of which is of far more sociological significance than the average Pundit might discern.

For baseball has to do with civic pride, with the run of the mill citizen's identification of himself as a Brooklynite or Clevelander or Chicagoan. A winning baseball club is as good an advertisement for a city as a winning football team is for a college.

**Mr Le Berthon**

But a baseball team does not have to be a winner to beget loyal devotion. It may be in the second division for years, yet its members are held in constant affection. Sat. 7-26-47

**THUS, MEN** like Larry Doby and Jackie Robinson become identified with cities, with communities, as the strong, skillful knights who can outjoust and out tilt knights from elsewhere.

An affront to Larry Doby becomes an affront to Cleveland. A disparagement of Jackie Robinson becomes a disparagement of Brooklyn. They have become outstanding representatives of those places, better known especially in other cities, than the public officials of Cleveland and Brooklyn. Sat. 7-26-47

**THE INSTINCT** of the Negro press in doggedly fighting for the right of qualified Negroes to play big league baseball has been sound right along. For baseball is not an isolated sport, a specialty, something for a few connoiseurs to enjoy.

It is everybody's game. When a Negro can play on a major league ball team, other Negroes can hold an increasing number of dignified civic posts.

Certainly nothing promotes interracial good will on a large scale better than to have an interracial baseball team in a city.

Anywhere in Greater New York today, a white man desiring to talk with a colored man—in a subway train, on a bus, in a hotel lobby, especially — needs only to say something about Jackie Robinson. Jackie is the great common denominator. He is the touchstone to good-humored brotherhood, American style. Sat. 7-26-47

**NEGROES IN** major and minor league baseball will do more for interracial concord than Negroes in the prize ring. For race pride—not always in the best sense—is whetted when a Negro fights a white in the ring. But a Negro on a team—it will be better yet when there are several Negroes on many a team—is part of a common sport enterprise. Sat. 7-26-47

In "our" city, he belongs to "all of us." His presence on "the team," reflects the special quality of "our" city's democracy. He gives "us" something to boast of, something far more splendid even than a winning team.

An increasing number of American cities, with major or minor league baseball teams, are going to hunger for this justifiable pride.

**HUMAN BEINGS** are what they are. They have always responded to beauty, to strength, to grace and to swiftness, far more than they have to sanctity. Lena Horne's keen, sensitive beauty has won much respect for the Negro via the screen.

Kenny Washington, Buddy Young and others have paved the way for more Negroes to attend interracial colleges. Jackie Robinson and Larry Doby will pave the way for more Negroes in organized baseball.

"I went to school with Buddy Young," or "I played in a picture with Lena Horne," or "Jackie Robinson is the best first baseman our team's had in years." Such casual expressions are magical in their profound suggestiveness. They really chart true progress. Sat. 7-26-47

* * *

**MANY WHITE** friends of mine have commented sadly on the publicized fact that Jackie Robinson has been unable to stop at the same hotel as his teammates when the Dodgers are playing in St. Louis and Cincinnati. In every other city he is accepted by hotel managements.

The public effect of this is going to be bad for St. Louis and Cincinnati. Most Americans are going to regard those two cities as backward, stingy, mean, as this news gets around.

There is a new world a-coming—and coming fast. By the season of 1950, it is likely that a majority of major and minor baseball teams will have some Negro players on their rosters.

The cities they represent will growingly win great popular affection and will benefit commercially. Chambers of Commerce will take the hint. The Deep South will have to take the hint too—eventually.

Daily Work. Thur. 7-31-47. Pol. N.Y.

# On The Score Board

## Press Box and Dugout At Negro Star Game

By Lester Rodney

**THE POLO GROUNDS** press box was jammed as for a Giant-Dodger doubleheader when sportswriters who don't have to work the games decide to take them in anyhow.

The occasion was the Negro All-Star game Tuesday night. A crowd of 38,405 (paid—there are always a few thousand over the announced paid figures) filled the cavernous park comfortably except for the upper reaches of deep center field. It was the biggest crowd in the history of Negro baseball hereabout.

**Nobody seemed to care too much one way or the other which team won—the Negro National League stars or the Negro American League stars. Everybody was interested in looking at some players who might be headed for the big leagues. That accounted for the bigger crowd in 1947 than in 1946, and for the surprisingly full pressbox, where formerly the Negro press, the Daily Worker and one or two others rattled around.**

This is the year Jimcrow was smashed in the big leagues. This is the year scouts of many big league teams are watching Negro players in action. One of the New York Times regular baseball writers was there and he sent in a regular story with a full box score. First time.

**There were a lot of people in the pressbox that nobody knew. Some of them were undoubtedly scouts. One certainly was. He was Ed Holly of the Chicago Cubs. He wouldn't talk but he couldn't stop his eyebrows from going up sharply as I sat next to him in the second inning and Monte Irvin, a right handed hitter, sent a fearful 450 foot line drive to right center, a shot that would have been a [illegible] run or extra base hit in any ball park but the peculiarly Polo Grounds. Here Sam Jethroe, center fielder of the League team, sped back to haul it down on the dead run.**

**NO ONE GAME** can prove much in baseball. But if I were a scout sent to sign up four players for a big league trial or high minor seasoning, I would certainly grab Irvin, a big rangy slugger who led the Negro NL in hitting last year, Jethroe, a speed boy centerfielder with a wallop and baserunning flare, Piper Davis, under option to the Browns, and Oreste Minosa, a 22-year old third baseman who has a bullet arm, meets the ball solidly and runs faster than Jackie Robinson or Pete Reiser. Jethroe is a switch hitter, who batting right handed against a good lefthanded pitcher, Tiant, slashed a sizzling triple down the left field line, and batting lefthanded cracked out sharp singles. Thur. 7-31-47

**At least five others looked good enough for Class AA ball immediately, and all would fit somewhere in the minor league structure.**

A Philadelphia Negro scribe told me that the Phils are "very seriously" looking the field over. They need a shortstop and first baseman. As for the "A's", he shook his head. **"Connie Mack would be the last. He's no good at all and won't change."**

Before the game, won incidentally by the American Leaguers [illegible] I visited in the dugouts of the two teams. All the players are of co[illegible] keenly big league conscious—one even asked me if I knew the attendance figures at Washington that night for the first appearance of the St. Louis Browns in the Capitol since signing Negro players. **(I didn't then, but the attendance WAS over 21,000, phenomenal for a Senator-Brown game).**

But the Negro players are becoming increasingly minor-league conscious too. One member of the Kansas City Monarchs told me that he thought Thompson, former member of that team signed by the St. Louis Browns, was a marvelous prospect but might not make it "cold." **"He needs a year in the top minors, like Milwaukee, the Browns' AA team,"** this player said, **"The same any youngster of his experience would get. Then he couldn't miss. The same goes for many others."**

Jethroe feels he is ready for the majors, but is debating an offer from the San Francisco Seals of the Pacific Coast League (Lefty O'Doul's team). Charles F. Graham, president of the SF club, has decided to be the Branch Rickey of the Pacific Coast League, a top AA minor, and hire the first Negro player. Jethroe can be the man. He's weighing against an almost certain big league offer, the pioneer role on the Coast plus the benefits of AA seasoning and coming up, like Robinson, an already established star.

Oh yes. With the game all over much later and the big crowd filing out, a roar spread through the crowd. A big "3" had just gone up on the scoreboard for the Brooklyn Dodgers, and another "0" for the Cards. Thur. 7-31-47

# Six Negroes Now in Organized Baseball

The Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 7-12-47

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Besides Robinson and Doby, the other Negro players are Roy Campanella, catcher with Montreal in the International League; Don Newcombe and Jose Rodriquez, pitcher and catcher, respectively, with Nashua of the New England League, and Sammy Gee, who plays shortstop for the Three Rivers Club in the Canadian-American League.

Pittsburgh Courier

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Pittsburgh, Pa.

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Newcombe was recommended to Brooklyn by Charles Dressen, now a coach for the New York Yankees, formerly with the Dodgers.

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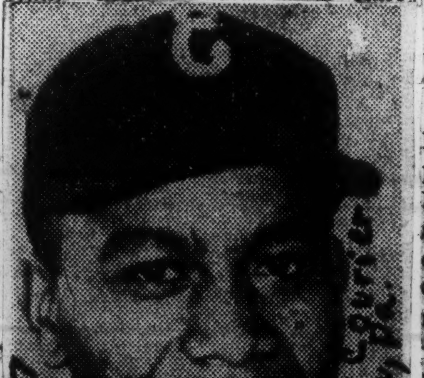

Sat. 7-12-47 Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

LARRY DOBY (American)

# TWO NEGRO STARS SIGNED BY BROWNS

The New York Times N.Y. N.Y.

## Thompson, Brown Are Bought From Monarchs in Effort to Improve Standing

Fri. 7-18-47

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Brown has been with the Kansas City club for more than ten years and is considered a heavy hitter. Thompson has played with the Monarchs four years. Thompson currently is batting .347 and Brown .333.

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Chicago Defender Chicago Ill.

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Sat. 8-9-47

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It is predicted, by those on the inside, that all 12 major league teams will have one or more Negro players on their roster by 1948. It has been reliably stated that certain Negro League clubs will be used as a training ground for the Negro prospects. This is to avoid any unpleasantness which would arise by sending these players to minor league clubs in the South.

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Sat. 8-9-47

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51b 1947

General

# On The Score Board

*Daily Worker. Thur. 7-31-47. Pol. n.y.*

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BOB CROWE, first baseman of the New York Black Yankees. Born in Franklin, Ind., Crowe was

an all-state basketball, football and baseball player. He continued his athletic career at Central Indiana Teachers College, from which he graduated. Last winter he played basketball with the nationally known New York Rens quintet.

JOHN RITCHEY, young catcher on the Chicago American Giants, who is playing his first year in the Negro leagues, hails from San Diego, Calif., where he played with white teams.

Bankhead, considered among the top three hurlers in the Negro American League, fanned two men in the East vs. West classic and allowed one hit, a single by the East's pitcher, Max Manning, in the third. He allowed no runs.

Jessup, a tall right-hander, will take the mound for the Chicago American Giants Sunday at Comiskey Park against the New York Black Yankees. Several times he has been mentioned as a likely White Sox prospect although the White Sox front office doesn't have anything to say at this time.

Piper Davis is under option by the St. Louis Browns but the Browns want to farm Davis out to their Elmira, N. Y., farm club. This does not meet with the approval of Tom Hayes Jr., Memphis undertaker and owner of the Birmingham club because Elmira cannot pay Davis the salary he is getting with the Black Barons. Davis can play second or first base. He was in the recent East vs. West game. He scored the first run of the game for the West in the opening West first inning when he doubled to left sending Herb Souell of the Kansas City Monarchs, who had tripled, across the plate.

Davis singled to left in the fifth. He walked in the ninth and stole second. His second time up came in the third and he drove Henry Kimbro back for his long fly. Davis is batting .359 in league games.

Sammy Jethroe, the Cleveland outfielder, got one hit in three times up in the East vs. West game. He tripled, with one gone, in the home seventh. He is an excellent fielder. He is batting .321. Jethroe may be the first of the eight to be signed. The Chicago Defender learned Thursday that efforts were being made by the San Francisco Seals of the Pacific Coast League to sign Jethroe.

**Will Sign Negroes**

Owner Graham, who has spent 50 years in baseball, told coast reporters that he would sign any Negro ball players who could really help his club. His representative in Chicago was trying to contact Ernie Wright, Erie, Pa., businessman and owner of the Cleveland Buckeyes.

Goose Tatum is 27. He led the Army basketball scorers while on the Lincoln, Nebr., Army Air Base quintet during the last year of the war. Last year he played basketball with the Harlem Globetrotters and made the tours to Havana, Cuba, and to Hawaii. Tatum, a member of the Indianapolis Clowns, is batting .229.

Art Wilson, Birmingham shortstop, is batting .376. A flashy fielder, he captures the fans with his sureness.

*Sat. 8-9-47*

Oreste Minosa is a young Cuban whom the Brooklyn scouts approached on the Island last winter. When Owner Alex Pompez of the New York Cubans learned that the Mexican League was offering Oreste a fat contract, he boarded a plane and headed straight for Cuba. Oreste is batting .336.

Luis Marquez, the Washington Homestead Grays player, can play both the infield and the outfield. He is batting .411.

**Robinson Paves Way**

Jackie Robinson, formerly of the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro American League, opened the door in the major leagues when he became a regular member of the Brooklyn club after one year in the International League. Robinson topped the International League batters and as second baseman for the Montreal Royals, he was the best defensive second baseman in his league. While with the Monarchs he played shortstop.

Branch Rickey Sr., president of the Dodgers, sent Robinson to first base at a time when the churchmen and regular fans in Brooklyn were down on Leo Durocher, manager of the Dodgers.

Robinson has made good at first base. His playing ability and his deportment on and off the field has been such that he is a credit to baseball and to his race. He follows in the footsteps of Joe Louis, the world heavyweight champion, as far as popularity goes among both the white and Negro sport lovers and newspapermen. Every time he plays, large crowds turn out. Attendance records have been broken.

Since Robinson, the first Negro to be signed to play in organized

# D.C. Baseball Circles Scouting for Negroes

*The Worker, New York, N.Y. 8-3-47*

WASHINGTON.—Washington sports took on a more democratic aspect during the past two weeks as Cleveland's Larry Doby broke the ice of Jimcrow in Griffith Stadium. At the same time, Redskin coach, Turk Edwards, gave indications of interest in a local Negro footballer.

In addition, the St. Louis Browns came to town with two established Negro players, Willard Brown, already starring in right field, and Hank Thompson, infielder and pinch-hitter.

*Sun. 8-3-47*

Sport circles here seem very much interested in the results of any negotiations by the Redskins which concern, so far, Horace Kenner, stellar end of the U Street Lions. The Tribe has lacked really capable ends to handle Slingin' Sammy Baugh's passes since the heyday of Millner and Masterson. In fact, the team as a whole could stand strengthening after last year's disastrous season.

*8-3-47*

The same maxim would apply to the hobbling Nats even though their home stand has been successful thus far. The road record, however, is just about the worst in either league. A pitcher or two of the acknowledged caliber of speedballer Dan Bankhead of the Memphis Red Sox, versatile Ford Smith, Kansas City Monarchs, pitcher-hitter Gentry Jessup, Chicago Giants, or strikeout artist Max Manning of the Newark Eagles would certainly be an asset to the Washington team.

Stan Spence, the Senator's lone slugging outfielder, would be more at home with two consistent .300 hitters like the Cleveland Buckeye's Sam Jethroe and Monte Irvin of the Eagles, playing alongside him. Although the Nat's infield is looking pretty good these days, the aid of infielders Oresto Minosa and Silvio Garcia, both of the New York Cubans, Birmingham shortstop Art Wilson and Johnny Washington of the Giants should not be snubbable. All of these players are "good field, good hit."

## Negro Pitcher to Get Tribute on Wednesday

*N.Y. Times, N.Y. Sun. 8-24-47*

Tribute will be paid 42-year-old John Stanley, the "iron man" of Negro baseball, Wednesday night, when the New York Black Yankees and the Indianapolis Clowns meet in a benefit game at the Yankee Stadium. The contest will start at 8:30 o'clock.

Three Negro organizations, the United Negro College Fund, which helps support thirty-three colleges; the Urban League, which conducts an extensive social service program for Negroes, and the Amsterdam News Welfare Fund, which does general charitable work, will share in the proceeds.

*Sun. 8-24-47*

Stanley, who has engaged professionally in football and boxing, has been in Negro baseball for twenty-one years. He is a left-handed spitball twirler who began his career in sandlot baseball at Chester, Pa., where he was born in 1905. A scroll will be presented to the veteran Negro athlete.

# THROUGH THE YEARS

By FAY YOUNG

*Chicago, Ill. Defender*

## Writers Err On That Little Old Word 'First'

*Sat. 4-26-47*

THAT LITTLE OLD "FIRST" gets more newspapermen in trouble than perhaps any other word. Time and again some one writes a story saying this person or that person is the "first" to do thus or so and before the ink is good and dry there are untold numbers of telephone calls coming into the office saying the story errs as this or that person did thus or so "years and years ago."

There have been stories printed about Jackie Robinson being the "first Negro" to play in organized white baseball while other stories said he was the "first Negro to play in the major leagues." Neither assertion is true. Negroes played in organized baseball back in the 1880s and in what was then a major league in 1884-1887 before the present major leagues were organized.

Because there isn't any authentic record available, it is doubtful if anyone can definitely say who was the "first." We recently read a column by a well informed writed who said that "Pee Wee" McGwin of Memphis was the first Negro to break into organized white baseball and gave the year as 1887.

Fay Young

**HOWEVER, WE RECENTLY** read an article in the Oberlin, O., college newspaper which told of two brothers, Moses Fleetwood Walker, a catcher, and Weldy Wilberforce Walker, an outfielder, the sons of Dr. Moses W. Walker. These two men played on the Oberlin varsity in 1881. They played with the University of Michigan in 1882 and 1883.

Mose Walker joined the Toledo club of the old Northwest League in the summer of 1883. He caught Hank O'Day, top Toledo hurler, who later was a major league umpire. When Toledo joined the old American Association, which was the major league of its day, in 1884, Mose Walker continued to play with that club. The old American Association consisted of Toledo, Louisville, St. Louis, Brooklyn, Pittsburgh, Washington, D. C., Indianapolis, Columbus and Cincinnati.

Mose finally went to Newark in the International League where he caught George Stovey, the Negro pitcher who hung up a record of 35 victories in one season—a record which still holds good in the International League.

Charlie Grant, later palmed off by the late John McGraw, then manager of the Baltimore club, as an Indian; Renfroe, Jackson and Fowler, were with the Binghampton club in upper New York state and Sol White, later with the Pennsylvania Boxing Commission, was with the Wheeling, W. Va., club.

Grant failed to continue with the Baltimore team because a delegation of Chicago Negroes met the club at the depot with presents and whatnots. When it was learned by Cap Anson, then manager of the old Chicago White Stockings, that Grant was a Negro, Anson became rambunctious and refused to play his team against a club with a Negro on it. In later years, however, Anson was happy to make a little change by playing his "Colts" against Rube Foster's American Giants.

Robinson is the first Negro in about 55 years to break into big-time white baseball. You can bet your money on that but DON'T bet he is the "first" Negro to play in the majors.

# Davis, First Star Developed In South To Sign With Majors

Atlanta, Ga. Daily World

Sat. 7-19-47

**By MARION E. JACKSON**

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. —(SNS) — Lorenzo 'Piper' Davis, topflight first baseman of the Birmingham Black Barons, became the first ranking baseball player developed in the deep South, to be signed by a major club. Davis was signed by the St. Louis Browns, who have the opportunity to exercise a 30-day option while the Browns continue to scout him in league play and the East-West Baseball Classic, Sunday, July 27th, in Chicago.

The gesture of the St. Louis Browns in taking an option on Davis brought swift reaction from his hometown folks, who are planning a giant testimonial for the lanky horsehider whose stellar first base play and unrivalled batting average projected him into the American League Club.

The Birmingham Negro Business League and the Housewives League are in the forefront of Alabama organizations planning a testimonial for the Black Baron's star.

Now that the hurrah of the Browns' signing of Davis is in the background, it is interesting to note that Jackie Robinson and Larry Doby got their training on the West Coast and in the East, although Doby was born in South Carolina.

**JOINS OTHER NOTED ALABAMIANS**

Davis joins the long list of native Alabamaians, who have made good—Joe Louis, Dave Albritton, Lucky Millinder, Cootie Williams, King Cole and Arthur Mitchell, but unlike them he did not have to leave his native Alabama to make good.

It will be interesting to watch the reaction of other major league clubs to the signing of Davis, particularly Ben Chapman of the Philadelphia Phillies and Dixie Walker of the Brooklyn Dodgers.

Davis, who is batting .371 is the 27-year-old sports wonder of Birmingham. He joined the Black Barons in 1942, leaving the Acipco baseball team of the YMCA Industrial League, where he played in 1939-42. He played first base with the Fairfield Club of the Tennessee Coal & Iron Co. League for a short while, a position he has held down at intervals for the Barons.

**FORMER HARDWOOD STAR**

Davis has been a sensational star with Abe Saperstien's Harlem Globetrotters, professional Chicago basketball team, first as a player and as a manager the last season.

The keystoner is a graduate of Fairfield Industrial High in 1935, where he was an outstanding player. Sat. 7-19-47

He was born in Piper, Ala., July 3, 1920. On Sept. 13, 1937, he was married to Miss Laura Perry of Fairfield, Alabama. They have two children, Lorenzo Davis, Jr., 8 and Fay Joyce Davis 6.

His parents John and Georgia Davis still live in Piper, Alabama. Davis is nicknamed "Piper" because of his native hometown.

Conflicting reports swept the Southland regarding whether or not Davis was signed. Clarification of his status was hurriedly cleared by the Browns' office.

In a telegram to the Birmingham WORLD, in regard to "Piper" Davis, the St. Louis Browns' management disclosed that "We have not signed him and he is not coming here. We have an option to buy him within 30 days. He will stay with the Birmingham Black Barons and we will continue to scout him."

Lorenzo "Piper" Davis was recommended and scouted by Jack Fournier. Davis joined the Birmingham Black Barons in 1942. Prior to that he had played with a semi-professional team in Omaha, Neb. On the West coast, Davis' record re played with a mixed team of Negroes and whites in Yakima, Washington.

# St. Louis Hails Negro Players

Daily Worker

New Yorker, N.Y.

**The St. Louis Browns were very much in the baseball limelight yesterday despite the fact that they were in the Americn League cellar, 26 games behind the Yankees and seven behind the Senators. The reason of course is the signing of Willard Brown and Henry Thompson, Negro ball players.**

It isn't so much the signing that is news, but the locale. For St. Louis is considered by many a southern city, and certain writers have maintained that southern fans would never accept inter-racial teams. Sat. 7-19-47

The fans are throwing that one right back in their faces. As this edition goes to press a large crowd was filing into Sportsmans Park to see Brown make his debut and Thompson play his second game, against the Boston Red Sox. The Browns haven't been drawing flies up till now.

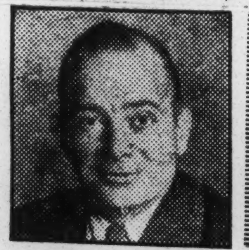
Thompson went 0 for 4 in his first game Thursday night. He's playing second base. Both he and Brown came up from the Kansas City Monarchs, Jackie Robinson's jumping off point. Scouts say he is a ground-covering fielder and his batting average of .347 speaks for itself. He's only 21 years old, was born in Dallas, and now lives in Los Angeles.

Willard Brown is a husky, six foot, slugging outfielder of the variety that the Browns need if they are ever to emerge from the A. L. cellar. He batted .353 and has slammed out eight homers in 46 games.

The third Negro player acquired by the Browns, Lorenzo Davis of Birmingham, should come up within 30 days, which is the Browns' option to buy. Sat. 7-19-47

Early reaction in St. Louis was completely favorable to the move by owner Muckerman, sports writers agreeing that it was a move in the right direction of strengthening the club.

# *Tom Meany:*



## Negroes in Major Stand on Merits

PM New York, N.Y.

Anybody who thinks the Browns added two Negro players to their roster for box office purposes will be disabused speedily of such notion by Charley Dewitt, traveling secretary, and Charley is as much interested in the box office as anybody else connected with the Browns.

"We hired Willard Brown and Henry Thompson, from the Negro league, because we needed help," explained Dewitt "we had scoured the country and couldn't find any white players in the minors who looked as though they would be an improvement.

"There was a tip that Brown had the punch to help us. While the All-Star game was being played in Chicago, there was a Negro game at Sportsman's Park. Freddie Hofmann, one of our coaches, Ed Smith, in charge of our farms; and myself went out and looked at Brown. He showed us some power and we were convinced he could help. Wed. 9-23-47

"Just to be sure, however, we called in one of our scouts, Jack Fournier. He traveled with the Negro team and saw it play a couple of games, then wired us to sign both Brown and Thompson.

"As to helping us at the box office, they'll help us only in the same degree that they'll help improve our club. If we can win some games, we'll draw more people. If we can't win, it doesn't matter whether we have Negro players or not.

***Team Has to Win If It Draws***

"Here's an example: Negro fans in St. Louis usually sit in the pavilion from choice, not because of any segregation rule. When the Cards, who are going good, play at Sportsman's Park, they have 3000 Negro fans in the pavilion, more perhaps if Brooklyn and Jackie Robinson play, but 3000 is the average Negro attendance for Cardinal home games. Last Sunday, with two Negro players in our line-up and the Red Sox with Ted Williams as the attraction for a double-header, we had fewer than 1000 people, white and Negro, in the pavilion. That proves that you draw when you win and don't draw when you lose. The Negroes were signed as ball players, not as box office bait."

Dewitt revealed that the decision to sign the Negro players was largely the result of the friendship of Owner Muckerman with the Rev. P. J. Halloran, S.J., president of St. Louis University. This Jesuit school was the first Missouri college to accept Negro students on the same basis as white students. When Muckerman saw there was no help forthcoming from the minors, he suggested scouting the Negro leagues.

There was less resentment than you might expect from other Brownie players, even those with Southern backgrounds. A few wanted to know why Thompson and Brown hadn't been tested in the minors first, as Jackie had, but that was all. Wed. 9-23-47

***They Stand or Fall On Own Ability***

That Robinson has done his work well as a trail-blazer for his race was evidenced in the attitude of the Brown players toward their Negro teammates. I talked to a couple of the Brownies in the lobby of the Hotel New Yorker yesterday and asked about Thompson and Brown. The white players discussed Thompson and Brown as ball players, not as members of another race. Yet when Robinson was signed to a Montreal contract, some 20 months ago, you'd have thought the whole structure of baseball was about to crash, to hear some of the wailers.

That Negroes now can take their place in the majors on the strength of their baseball ability, to stand or fall on it, is a healthy sign.

# In this corner

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

## More on the Diamond's Dying Jimcrow

Mon. 7-7-47

—By Bill Mardo

**NEXT NEGRO** in the American League may be Jeff Jessup, ticketed for the Chicago White Sox. He's one of the fine pitching prospects to be found in the Negro American League, and pitching is what Mrs. Grace Comiskey's club needs plenty of. Remember the old tune, **"Chicago, Chicago, How Happy I'll Be? . . ."** Well, Chisox fans haven't had much to be happy about since **1917,** when the last A.L. bunting was hoisted atop 35th Street and Shields Avenue. That year Pants Rowland piloted his White Stockings to the world's championship . . . and it's been a long wait in-between. Only other time the Chisox finished first came in 1901 and '06. The Loop City's A.L. entry boasts one of the worst pennant winning records in the league, bettered only by the St. Louis Browns who captured their lone flag three seasons back.

So the Sox really need building. Not only for contention in their own loop, but to win over many of the fans who've deserted them to follow the more exciting fortunes of the Cubs. The turnstiles have been ringing much louder at Wrigley Field . . . and only the buying of top talent wherever it's available will get the Sox back in the running, both financially and physically.

They're in fifth place right now, the slot they anchored in last season. Therefore the scouting of Negro talent makes much sense for the Sox. And it's about the only place left for a needy club to turn. The big trades of the season are done with and the Chisox farm system has never been over-ripe. Branch Rickey paved the way, Bill Veeck followed suit . . . and you can bet your bottom dollar there isn't a big league baseball team not scouting the Negro National and American Leagues today. Mon. 7-7-47

**The race is on: Even the most reactionary of baseball clubowners are on the look, knowing full well that democracy has come to our National Pastime to stay. And for some of them the hoary smell of stupid prejudices has been batted down by the stronger smell of the dollar. Branch Rickey's reward for his practical foresight has been some of the biggest gate receipts in the history of the Brooklyn organization. Last year at Montreal . . . and this year on the Dodger road trips, where Jackie Robinson has pulled them in at a tremendous rate. Bill Veeck will get the same returns on Larry Doby, and the rest of the league is about ready to get into the act.**

That's okay by us. During the long years of campaigning for what is coming to pass, this page never stopped reminding the magnates that bringing a little democracy to baseball would also bring more than a little of the green folding stuff to their stockholders. Aside from Rickey and Veeck, that consideration—and not the loftiest of ideals—will weigh heaviest in ending completely and for good the ugly scar of discrimination which has disfigured a great game for more than half a century.

**AND BELIEVE ME,** without wishing to lull or disarm the democratic loving baseball fans, Jimcrow on the diamond is on its deathbed. Continued alertness, pressure on the vast majority of clubowners is still necessary, of course, but the die has been cast by Rickey and Veeck. Others are in the process of following suit. Leslie O'Connor, White Sox general manager, said "No Comment" to reporters' queries on the possible signing of Jessup. From the curt "No!" of yesterday to the cautious "no comment" of today while scouts are filing exhaustive reports on Negro ballplayers, is indicative of the way things are going.

**The pattern has been cut and it will apply to all baseball circuits, whatever their caliber. The same day that Larry Doby made his debut as a Cleveland Indian, the Stamford Colonial Baseball League signed 22-year old Francisco Sostre, right-handed hurler of the Negro National League's New York Cubans. Three weeks ago it was Nate Moreland, who was hired by El Centro of the new Sunset League.**

Tomorrow and the day after, you may read about further big league signings of players like Jessup, Austin, Irvin, Tatum, Strong and other standouts.

The fact that they're Negroes will become less and less of a "novelty." Mon. 7-7-47

Soon only the clubowner who doesn't have at least two or three Negro players in his organization will be the novelty.

**It's high time, fans, to turn the full brunt of attention on the American Bowling Congress, the United States Lawn Tennis Association, and whatever other sports' spheres are still hanging stubbornly to an obnoxious philosophy. Come to think of it, "philosophy" is the wrong word, but this is still a family newspaper.**

# RICKEY HAILS VEECK, SEES BASEBALL JIMCROW LICKED

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

*"It was the natural thing to do," Branch Rickey said yesterday of Cleveland's signing of Larry Doby, "Bill Veeck is a forthright and progressive baseball man. As soon as the excitement about Jackie wore off I felt sure they would all be out scouting. . . . Why after the large crowds we drew in St. Louis I wouldn't be surprised to see both the Browns and Cardinals shopping around for Negro players before the season is over."* Sat. 7-5-47

ing down discrimination he has been very anxious for some one else to take the same step. I think it's a fair assumption that Rickey didn't want to grab off all the Negro stars who are ready right now for the big leagues. Among other things the Dodgers have the most successful farm system in the game and the most promising crop of young rookies on the way up. If Detroit wants Campanella badly enough let them make Rickey a fair offer, one in keeping with their own ex-catcher Paul Richard's estimation of Roy as "the best catcher in baseball."

**As for the Dodger's policy, it is well established. Their signing of Sammy Gee, 18-year-old Negro wonder athlete, for development in the farm system shows their scouts are active, and the way Don Newcombe is developing as a hurler at Nashua he should become the first great Negro big league pitcher.**

When Doby steps onto the field at Cleveland it won't be the first time the lakeside city has cheered an inter-racial team. The Cleveland Browns of the All America Football Association last season smashed pro attendance records and won the league championship, helped notably by Marion Motley and Bud Wills, two great Negro players. And have already signed two more Negro stars for the '47 season. Sat 7-5-47

Of interest in the Cleveland picture are the chief personalities involved. Young Bill Veeck, the owner, lost a foot at Bougainville and says: **"I am operating on the premise that the war advanced us". . .**

The Cleveland sports pages hailed the signing. Columnist Ed Bang of the **Cleveland News** devoted most of his column to a eulogy of Jackie Robinson, who, he said, "pulled down the barriers," by his courageous play. Franklin Lewis in the Press enthusiastically wishes Doby the best of luck and agrees with Veeck that "within a few years 10 to 12 Negro players will be in the big leagues."

**One more angle. When I interviewed Mrs. Effa Manley, owner of the Newark Eagles, not so long ago, she spiked the canard that Negro owners were against the big leagues taking their players. "We just want equal recognition with the minor leagues and some protection on our investments," she said. Mrs. Manley received well over $15,000 for Doby.**

That's about all this interesting 4th of July. Except for one little thing. As a congenital Brooklyn fan, I never had a favorite team in the American League. I have one now, and it isn't the Yankees

# On the Scoreboard

—By Lester Rodney—

New York, N.Y.

**LARRY DOBY** is in the big leagues where he belongs. And there may never again be so much importance attached to the signing of a Negro player. Lou Boudreau, young Cleveland playing manager, said Doby's purchase was "a routine matter in my mind." Daily Worker

He meant it **SHOULD** be a routine matter, and it will become one. But pick up some copies of the Cleveland papers of July 3rd. The ordinary signing of a rookie doesn't rate a big page one display.

The fact is that Doby's signing represents a smashing victory for democracy, just as important in many respects as the signing of Jackie Robinson. This was a big one, the answer to those who never accepted the presence of Robinson and tried unsuccessfully to stir up "trouble." And it's also an answer to those more polite champions of Jimcrow who "accepted" Robinson because they couldn't do anything about it, and set about quietly trying to freeze him as the last as well as first Negro to make the big leagues. Like influential (but not influential enough!) "Sporting News." Sat. 7-5-47

**Democracy is an infectious thing and its enemies couldn't succeed in quarantining it in Brooklyn. Doby's presence in the American League will take real Americanism into six more big league parks and give a lot of fans there some ideas. The six are Cleveland's spacious Municipal Stadium, which should now see some of its biggest crowds; the Yankee Stadium—how now, Colonel Mac Doubletalk? Briggs Stadium in Detroit—and keep your eyes peeled there, Tiger manager O'Neill would give plenty to buy catcher Campenella from Montreal; Comiskey Park in Chicago, in the heart of the South Side and with a campaign already raging to help the weak White Sox; Fenway Park in Boston, where Tom Yawkey has been hesitantly scouting one good Negro player, outfielder Jethroe, and finally Griffith Stadium in Washington, D. C.**

# History Was Made In Yankee Stadium By St. Louis Team

Nashville Globe

Nashville, Tenn.

Fri. 8-8-47

By RAY LAWRENCE

New York — (For Global News Syndicate)—History was made in New York City last week when the St. Louis Browns invaded the Yankee Stadium for a three game series. Under ordinary times, the game would have attracted only about one-third the attendance that it did.

The big attraction of course, was the appearance of two Negroes in the Brown's line-up. The fleet-footed second baseman, Hank Thompson, and the hard-hitting W. J. Brown, playing right field. Both gave a good account of themselves, on both and field. Big BoBo Newsome gave the lowly placed Browns only three hits and Hank Thompson collected one of them. His sensational peg of the streaking Rizzuto, on an attempted steal at second base was a beauty to watch.

Fri. 8/8/47

Brown hit the longest and hardest ball of the game! It was a high-towering drive for a bid for the grandstand. Only the alert expertness of the one and only Tommy Henrich prevented it from doing damage to the Yankees.

Harlem was well represented in the near-packed Stadium. The boys were greeted with a round of applause from the crowd, each time they appeared at bat. Yes, we watched again—DEMOCRACY IN FULL BLOOM.

# On The Score Board

Daily Worker 8-26-47 Tues. N.Y.

## Thompson, Brown Get Raw Deal From St. Louis

**By Lester Rodney**

What kind of "chance" did the St. Louis Browns give Henry Thompson and Wilbur Brown, Negro players dropped unconditonally Saturday?

If the two players weren't adjudged ready for the big leagues the reason given for the action, why weren't they farmed out to some of the Browns' minor league teams?

The three top Brown farms are Toledo, of the American Association, Class AAA; San Antonio, of the Texas League, Class A, and Elmira, of the Eastern League, Class A. **All three are in last place!**

Impossible as yet to send Negro players into the Texas League' OK. But how about Toledo? How about Elmira? Both Thompson and Brown said when originally signed that they would be happy to play wherever assigned. 8-26-47 Tues.

What happened between the time the two players were signe after an intensive scouting by head scout Jack Fournier, who adjudge them prospective big leaguers, and the unconditional released o Saturday? Who put the heat on Dick Muckerman, Brownie prexy What changed the St. Louis front offices' mind about democracy i their setup?

**Not the fans! They cheered every appearance of Thompson an Brown in St. Louis, southernmost city in the big time.**

There could be no quarrel with judging Thompson and Brow "not ready" and sending them down for more experience. Very fe are the players who step even from the top minor leagues into a bi league lineup in mid-season and make the grade. Thrice as difficul

## St. Louis Browns Find Negroes Not Up To Majors' Par

Montgomery Advertiser, Montgomery, Ala.

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 23.—(AP)—Henry Thompson and Willard J. Brown, Negro players purchased by the St. Louis Browns last July 17, were given their unconditional release at the end of today's game with the Philadelphia Athletics. Sun. 8-24-47

A spokesman for the club said the two men had failed to reach major league standards. With the Browns Thompson, a second baseman, batted .256 while Brown, outfielder, hit .162.

Both players came to St. Louis from the Negro American League, Kansas City Monarchs. They were the third and fourth Negroes to join major league clubs.

At the same time Thompson and Brown were purchased the St. Louis club bought an option of another Negro, Infielder Lorenzo Davis, of the Birmingham, Ala., Black Barons, but dropped the option a few weeks later.

## Words Of Encouragement Come From A Friend

Journal & Guide, Norfolk, Va. Sat. 8-2-47

Jerome "Dizzy" Dean, one of baseball's all-time pitching greats gives a few words of encouragement to Willard "Junior" Brown and Henry "Hank" Thompson, Negro members of the St. Louis Browns, just before game time in the recent series between the Brownies and the Yanks at Yankee Stadium in New York City. The appearance of Brown and Thompson marked the first time in the history of the game that two colored ball players had participated in a major league contest at the House that Ruth built. Said Dean to duo: "In my prime, I've pitched against both white and Negro major leaguers. I didn't notice any difference in the caliber of play. Get out there and show 'em. Dean, now a St. Louis sportscaster is a native Southerner.

## 50 Negroes on white college grid squads

Tribune, Los Angeles, Cal.

As the nation's gridders grind out the 1947 season, an incomplete checks reveals about 50 Negro players show up regularly in the weekly lineups on the collegiate circuits. Outstanding of these are part & parcel of 22 schools' squads. Sat. 11-8-47

**ROUNDUP**

Indiana university—George Taliaferro, halfback; Mel Grooms, halfback; Wilfried Rawl, tackle; Hugh (Knocky) McInnis, halfback.

Illinois university—Paul Patterson, halfback; Ike Owens, end.

Michigan university—Gene Derricotte, halfback; Bob Mann, end.

Michigan State—Horace Smith, backfield. Sat. 11-8-47

Iowa university — Earl Banks, guard; Emlen Tunnell, halfback; Johnny Estes, halfback; Otis Finney, halfback.

Ohio State—Jim Clark, halfback; Bob Dorsey, end; Dick Jackson, end; Stan Dixon, end; Bill Gray, end.

Northwestern university — Jim Holland, halfback.

Wisconsin university — Cal Vernon, backfield; Bob Teague, backfield.

Pittsburgh university — Bobby Lee, halfback; Earl Sumpter, guard; Jimmy Joe Robinson, backfield.

New York university — Fred Burgess, backfield.

Harvard—Chet Pierce, tackle.

Rutgers—Harvey Grimsley, halfback; Bucky Hatchett, end.

Yale—Levi Jackson, fullback.

Wichita university — Linwood Sexton, halfback.

Minnesota—Gene Pullens, halfback.

Wayne—Bob Williams, fullback; John Hazely, backfield.

Butler university—Orville Williams, halfback; Tom Street, fullback.

Earlham college—Eugene "Rabbit" Brown, halfback; Josh "Bunny" Brown, halfback.

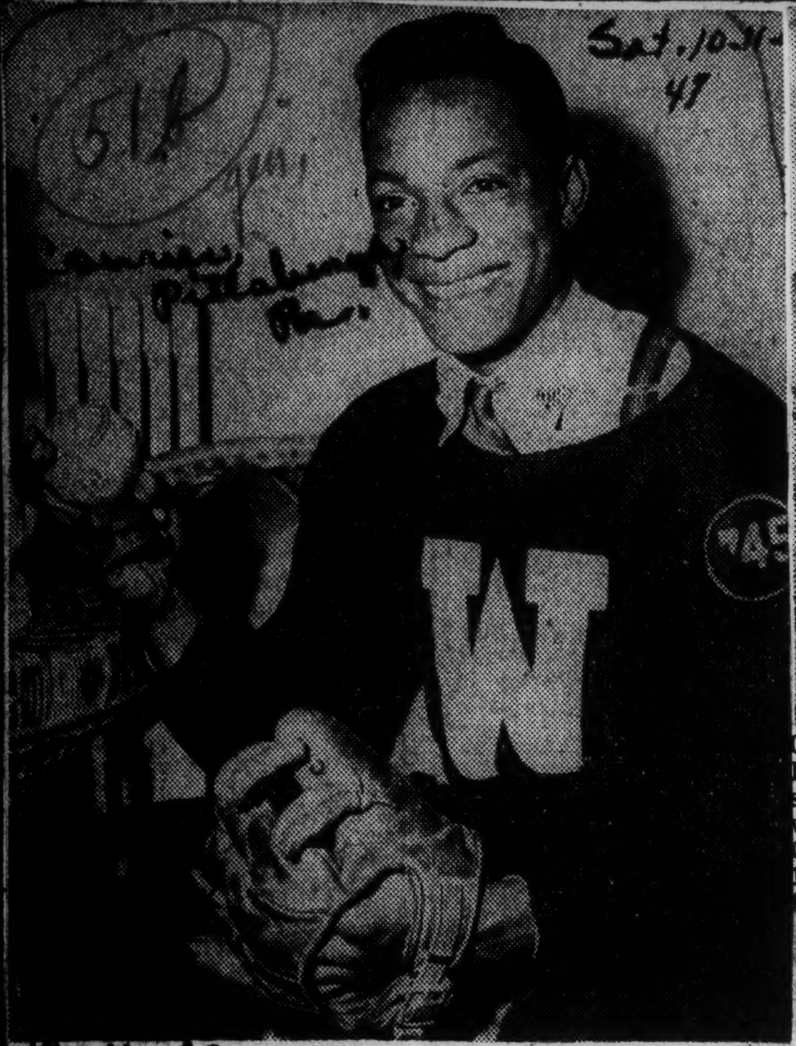
Iowa State Teachers — Paul Devan, backfield.

Washington and Jefferson—Dan Towler, fullback.

UCLA—Bob Mike, tackle.

Colorado A. & M.—Eddie Hanhalfback.

Nebraska university — Bertram Cooke (freshman) halfback.



10-11-47

**FUTURE DODGER**—Milton Neal, 20-year-old baseball star from Winthrop, Mass., who has been signed by the Brooklyn Dodgers and will be assigned to their Nashua, N. H., farm club. An infielder, he will report for spring training at Greenville, S. C., in April. He was an all-around star in high school.—INS Photo.

**COAST LEAGUE WELCOME**—President Bill Starr of the San Diego Padres, welcomes John Ritchey, former Chicago American Giants star, to the Pacific Coast League. Ritchey signed a 1948 contract last week to play with the Padres, the first of his race to enter the Pacific Coast loop. Ritchey paced the Negro American League batters in 1947. He is a versatile athlete, having caught and played infield with the Windy City nine.

# San Diego Signing Rips PCL Jimcrow

Daily Worker

12-3-47

New York, New York

**A long fight by progressives and democratic minded baseball fans on the West Coast to end the stubborn "Gentleman's" Agreement against Negro players in the Pacific Coast League has scored its first major victory with the signing of catcher Johnny Ritchie by the San Diego team.**

Ritchie, a native of the southernmost California city in the league now seeking big league status, is a slugging 23 year old star who clouted .382 for the Chicago Giants of the Negro American League this past summer. His signing was announced by Bill Starr, owner of the Padres, and was immediately hailed as a big step towards greater popularity by the local team.

Ritchie told reporters, **"I'm happy to get the opportunity. I believe I can make it."**

The "Peoples World," progressive daily West Coast paper, has spearheaded a long fight to break down discrimination in an area where some of the greatest college athletes have been Negroes, including Jackie Robinson of UCLA.

Owner Graham of the San Francisco Seals was negotiating with Sam Jethroe of the Cleveland Buckeyes this summer but changed his mind under adverse pressure.

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By Bill Mardo

**THE FIRST NEGROES to play an American League ballgame at Yankee Stadium are Willard Brown and Hank Thompson of the St. Louis Browns. As such, they were** given a brief, friendly hand when their names were announced in the Tuesday night lineups, and from that moment on they were just Thompson and Brown in the eyes of 50,000 other Americans, and not the "first" of anything.

Daily Worker N.Y. N.Y.

Yet, in many ways, that game under the Bronx arcs was the most clean-cut example of the inherently democratic American spirit one could ask for. A friend who met me after the game put it this way, as we walked down River Avenue with the home-bound thousands. He was alerted for snatches of crowd conversations, but what he thought might be discussed, wasn't, and he suddenly turned to me and marvelled: **"Why, nobody's even talking about Thompson and Brown!"**

Indeed. The side-show days are over. Like all other ballplayers, Brown and Thompson will be topic of conversation only when they've figured one way or another in a ballgame. If Brown homers, the fans will talk it up and so will the newspaper accounts. The same applies to Joe DiMaggio or Ted Williams. If Hank Thompson boots one at second to let the winning run across for the opposition, he can expect the same reaction that would greet a similar error by George Stirnweiss or Joe Gordon.

Thurs. 7/24/47

**That's baseball and that was the atmosphere at Yankee Stadium the other night. The "extra" applause which used to greet every routine move of Jackie Robinson, the frantic photographers, the ceaseless line of reporters, all this is healthily done with. Tuesday night before the game, the St. Louis dugout was bare of all extra paraphernalia except the ball players themselves.**

The pressure, the strain, the discomfort, those were Jackie Robinson's unenviable burdens to bear a while. Doby, Thompson, Brown, Campanella, Piper Davis and all the others coming in, will know none of that. Sure, until there are more than just a handful on the major circuit, each incoming Negro player will feel a little more than normally tight. But not for long, because all the hubbub that understandably accompanied Robinson's debut has now dissipated into normalcy.

You'll get a little better idea of what I mean when I tell you that the third-place Gloversville team of the Canadian American League has on its lineup a lad named Charles Harmon, Negro centerfielder who made his debut last Saturday night. You read nothing about it because the signing of Negro players is rapidly becoming less and less unusual. An upstate reader, Evelyn Goldstein, writes me that **"the welcome Harmon received from the Gloversville fans and his teammates is something to write home about."** Swell, that's as it should be for the first Negro player in Gloversville's history, but actually the third to see action in the Canadian-American loop. Last season, you recall, Roy Partlow and Johnny Wright went from Montreal to the Dodgers' Three-Rivers farmteam of the same circuit.

**The process is over the hump, so to speak, and from here in, the only novelty attached to the signing of Negro players will be when clubs who've yet to sign their first Negro do so. In other words, the Giant fans who simply accept Jackie Robinson as another player, albeit a brilliantly versatile one, will still have their own special feeling of pride comes that great day when Horace Stoneham breaks down and brings some long overdue democracy to the Polo Grounds. And then everything goes back to normal.**

I couldn't help thinking these things as fat old Bobo Newsom set St. Louis down with three measly hits two nights ago. One of those hits was Thompson's Texas League blooper which just did fall between Stirnweiss and DiMaggio, the Yankee second-sacker getting his hands on it and then dropping the difficult chance. I couldn't help thinking these things as Willard Brown, a crouching right-handed batter, showed real power pushing one of Bobo's outside curves to within five feet of the lower rightfield seats.

You see, there isn't a baseball player living who hasn't gotten a cheap blooping single, or **almost** got a homerun.

And that's how the Stadium sitters saw it Tuesday night. It was plain baseball, and a guy's color has nothing to do with the next day's box-score, has it?

51b 1947

General

# End Jimcrow Drive Aimed at Other Clubs

*The Worker* *Sun. 4-20-47 New York, N.Y.*

As the congratulations continued to pour in on Brooklyn's Branch Rickey for making the first move to break down baseball discrimination, the voice of the people was being felt in the other big league cities.

Sports writers were starting to comment favorably on the democratic action of the Dodgers and point the finger at their own local teams.

An example of what was being written is this excerpt from the column by Dave Egan in the **Boston Record:**

**"Rickey . . . has placed every other club in both major leagues in the same position of denying an equal opportunity to certain American citizens because of the color of their skin. How does Eddie Collins of the Red Sox feel about it? How do the Messrs. Perini Rugo and Maney of the Braves, none of whose ancestors arrived on the Mayflower, feel about it? . . . The war against bigotry in baseball will not be won until every team in every league judges every man on his ability to play ball."**

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**MEANWHILE** people's organizations were knocking at the doors of their local magnates. In Chicago, William L. Patterson, prominent Negro Communist leader, sent the following communication to Philip Wrigley, Cub owner:

April 14, 1947

Dear Mr. Wrigley:

On Thursday afternoon April 10, 1947 baseball history was made in America. On that date in Ebbets Field, Brooklyn Branch Rickey, owner of the Brooklyn Dodgers introduced democracy into the big leagues.

It might have been Chicago which established that democratic principle that: all men shall have equality of opportunity in this branch of American sports. You undoubtedly recall the occasions when we spoke about introducing Negro players on the Cubs. You even called in Clarence (Pants) Rowland and we mentioned Jackie. Nothing came of it.

There are other Negro boys as good as Jackie eating their hearts out with longing to play before their people—American sportsmen and women. The Pasquels have taken some to Mexico, others are in the Negro leagues from which they can be readily purchased. Some are free-lancers. One or two of the chaps might well have returned last year's defeat into a Cub pennant victory. But that's not the principal factor involved in this issue.

**This is an issue between American democracy and the un-American concept which penalizes a man because of his color, nationality, creed or political belief. No such concept can be allowed freedom in our country.** *The Worker*

The Cubs can't be first to smash that edict dictated by prejudice. It can be second. You can make it so, I should like to talk this question over with you again and to present the names of some boys who I am satisfied would electrify the North Side bleachers. *New York, N.Y.*

Yours for full democracy in baseball. *Sun. 4-20-47*

Sincerely,
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# ROYALS' STAR SIGNS WITH BROOKS TODAY

*The Times*

## International League Batting Champion Will Bid for Job in Big League Infield

*New York, N.Y.*

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The decision was made while Robinson was playing first base for Montreal against the Dodgers at Ebbets Field. Jackie was blanked at the plate and contributed little to his team's 4-3 victory before 14,282 fans, but it was nevertheless, a history-making day for the well-proportioned lad.

### An Inopportune Moment

Jackie had just popped into a double-play, attempting to bunt in the fifth inning, when Arthur Mann, assistant to Rickey, appeared in the press box. He handed out a brief, typed announcement: "The Brooklyn Dodgers today purchased the contract of Jackie Rosevelt Robinson from the Montreal Royals."

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Robinson's path in the immediate future may not be too smooth, however. He may run into antipathy from Southerners who form about 60 per cent of the league's playing strength. In fact, it is rumored that a number of Dodgers expressed themselves unhappy at the possibility of having to play with Jackie.

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Jackie, himself, expects no trouble. He said he was "thrilled and it's what I've been waiting for." When his Montreal mates congratulated him and wished him luck, Robinson answered: "Thanks, I'll need it."

Whether Robinson will be used at first or second base is not known. That will depend upon the new manager, yet to be named by Rickey.

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If, however, Robinson is to make the grade, he will have to do better than he did against the Brooks. Against Ralph Branca, Jackie rolled meekly to the mound, walked and then popped an intended sacrifice bunt into a double play. At first base—a new position for him—he handled himself flawlessly, but did not have a difficult chance.

# MONTREAL TRIPS DODGERS

*Fri. 4-11-47*

## Lund and Campanis Hit 2-Run Homers Against Branca in Fourth for 4-3 Triumph

### Six Hits for Each Club

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The homers, both in the fourth inning at the expense of Branca, accounted for all the Montreal runs. After Robinson had walked and Jack Jorgensen had flied out, Don Lund blasted a liner into the lower left-field stand. Then a pass to Earl Naylor and a longer four-bagger to left center by Al Campanis made it 4—0. *4-11-47*

The Dodgers retrieved two runs in the same stanza. Walker walked and Duke Snider doubled to center. Walker tallied and when Lou Welaj, Montreal shortstop, threw wild on the relay, Snider went all the way around. A walk to Stan Rojek and Gene Hermanski's double netted the last Brooklyn run in the seventh.

While Lund's and Campanis' round-trippers were well tagged, both would have been caught last year. The walls are fourteen feet closer to home plate this season.

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*The Times*

Leo Durocher, suspended manager, talked to the Dodgers before the game, but departed immediately. He had no comment, except that he'd be in town for several days. *New York, N.Y.*

The box score:

**MONTREAL**

| | ab. | r. | h. | po. | a. | e. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Welaj, ss. | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Rob'son, 1b. | 3 | 1 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 |
| Jorg'sen, 3b. | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Lund, rf. | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Naylor, cf. | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Pluss, lf. | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| C'panis, 2b. | 4 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Sandlock, c. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 |
| C'p'an'la, c. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| Palica, p. | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| aShuba | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Banta, p. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Total | 29 | 4 | 6 | 27 | 10 | 1 |

**DODGERS (N.)**

| | ab. | r. | h. | po. | a. | e. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stanky, 2b. | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| Mauch, 2b. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Lav'g'to, 3b. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| Rojek, 3b. | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Herm'ki, lf. | 5 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Walker, rf. | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Woyt, rf. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Snider, cf. | 4 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| tSevens, 1b. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| cTatum | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Schultz, 1b. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Miksis, ss. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Bragan, c. | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| dReiser | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Anderson, c. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Branca, p. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| bWhitman | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Behrman, p. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| eVaughan | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Minner, p. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 30 | 3 | 6 | 27 | 13 | 1 |

aGrounded out for Palica in seventh.
bFanned for Branca in seventh.
cRan for Stevens in eighth.
dWalked for Bragan in eighth.
eSingled for Behrman in eighth.

Montreal ........................000 400 000—4
Brooklyn ........................000 200 100—3

Runs batted in—Lund 2, Campanis 2, Snider, Hermanski. *4-11-47*

Two-base hits—Hermanski 2, Snider, Jorgensen. Home runs—Lund, Campanis. Sacrifices—Miksis, Pluss. Double plays—Lavagetto and Miksis; Mauch, Miksis and Stevens; Banta, Campanella and Robinson. Left on bases—Montreal 5, Brooklyn 10. Bases on balls—Off Palica 4, Branca 6, Banta 4. Struck out—By Palica 6, Branca 2, Banta 3, Minner 1. Hits—Off Palica 4 in 6 innings, Banta 2 in 3, Branca 4 in 7, Behrman 1 in 1, Minner 1 in 1. Winning pitcher—Palica. Losing pitcher—Branca. Umpires—Tabachi and [illegible]. Time of game—2:20. Attendance—14,282.

# Daily Worker Initiated Fight Against Jimcrow in Baseball

*The Worker* *New York, N.Y.*

The campaign to end discrimination against Negroes in America's National Pastime began back in 1936 with the launching of a Daily Worker sports section. From there it broadened out to include millions democratically minded fans.

Here are some of the steps of the long campaigns: *Sun.*

• The Daily Worker publicized the capabilites of Negro players for the first time in the regular press, also quoting such stars as Joe DiMaggio to the effect that Negro pitcher Satchel Paige was "the best pitcher I ever faced." *4-13-47*

• The Daily Worker and the in conjunction with Negro weeklies, conducted an extensive poll of big league managers and players who paid tribute to the abilities of many Negro players and said they would be happy to welcome them.

• Petitions piled up on the desk of the late Commissioner Landis until he was forced to break down and say there should be no discrimination in baseball.

• The Daily Worker, The Worker and the People's Voice, Negro weekly were instrumental in arranging the first tryout of Negro players by a big league team. *Sun.*

Not that the Daily Worker and The Worker did the job alone. The inherent sportsmanship of the American people did the job.

But the Daily Worker and The Worker certainly were the papers that brought the issue into the open and kept hammering at it, and will continue to do so until the blot of discrimination is completely removed from the great game of baseball. *4-13-47*

Roanoke, Va., Times
April 12, 1947

## Dodgers' Negro First Baseman

"I'm grateful to Mr. Rickey for the chance and I'll do my best to come through". Such was the modest statement of Jackie Robinson, first Negro to reach the major leagues in modern organized baseball, when he learned that the Brooklyn Dodgers had bought his contract from their farm club, the Montreal Royals, with a view to putting him in the line-up at first base.

Robinson played second base for the Montreal club last season and sparkled both afield and at bat. After watching him closely in Spring training, Leo Durocher and the Brooklyn coaches came to the conclusion that he was ready to move up to the parent club, a conclusion apparently shared by President Branch Rickey, judging from his decision to purchase the player's contract from Montreal.

First base is entirely new to Robinson, who had never played at the position until a few weeks ago when the Montreal management, at Rickey's request, transferred him from second to first, but he is quickly getting accustomed to his new duties as guardian of the sack, and the baseball experts are confident that he will make the grade as a first baseman and remedy a glaring weakness in the Brooklyn infield since Dolph Camilli retired from the game several years ago.

How National League fans and players will react to the sight of a Negro in the Brooklyn line-up remains to be seen but in all probability there will be no adverse reaction on that score; at any rate, there shouldn't be the slightest—and if Robinson can make the grade on his skill as a player he will probably be a fixture with the Dodgers for some time to come.

The player says he fully realizes "what it means not only to me, but to my race and to baseball". He says he knows that he is "on the spot" but expresses the hope that he "can win them over in Brooklyn as I did in Montreal". We hope so, too. Certainly the door to promotion in his chosen calling should not be closed to him on account of his race and a sense of fairness dictates that he should be judged on his subsequent showing not as a Negro but as a ball player. That, we hope, is the way it will turn out.

# Daily Worker Led War on Baseball Jimcrow

*Daily Worker*

The Daily Worker blazed the trail in the fight to end big league baseball's Jimcrow discrimination.

With the inception of a Daily Worker sports page in 1936 there began a relentless campaign which accomplished three things:

1. Put the big league executives and owners on the spot, publishing interviews which revealed that no written ban on Negroes existed.

2. Publicized for the first time in the general press the potential big league ability of many Negro players. *New York, N.Y.*

3. Showed through a constant series of interviews with big league managers and players, that they were overwhelmingly for opening the doors to qualified Negro players, thus knocking out one of the major arguments used by the Jimcrowers. *Sat. 4-12-47*

Here is a condensed chronology of the events:

**1936:** Ford Frick, president of the National League, pinned down in an interview with the Daily Worker, admitted there was no written ban against Negro players. This statement received national prominence.

**1937:** Joe DiMaggio, Yankee star, told the Daily Worker, "Satchell Paige is the greatest pitcher I ever faced and should be in the big leagues." The Negro press throughout the land carried this story on page one and it was widely quoted in the general press.

Satchell Paige, immortal Negro pitcher, in a Daily Worker interview, challenged American sportsmanship and offered to pit a Negro All-Star team against the winners of the World Series to prove their right to big league status. The Daily Worker publicized fully for the first time in any paper Paige's amazing record in post-season competition against big league teams.

**ON THE RECORD**

**1937:** A series of interviews with every big league team, managers and star players began and continued for years. Typical of the statements publicized:

Bill McKechnie, manager of the Cincinati Reds:

**"I know of at least 20 Negro players good enough to play big leagues and I would be happy to have them on the Reds if given permission."**

Carl Hubbell, National League's star pitcher and a Texan:

**"There are many Negroes ready for the big leagues. Josh Gibson is as great a catcher as I ever saw."**

Dizzy Dean, then top pitcher of the league, with St. Louis: *4-12-47*

**"Satchell Paige is a better pitcher than I am, ever was, or ever will be. With me and Satch on the same team we'd never lose a game."**

Pepper Martin, Card star and outstanding baserunner:

**"I thought I was fast till I played with some of those Negro players you're talking about. Those fellows should be up there."**

Leo Durocher, manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers (1939): *Daily Worker*

**"Of course some of those Negro players belong in the big leagues. We all know their capabilities."**

**MILLION NAMES**

Countless other statements came from managers no longer active (like Gabby Hartnett of the Cubs): "I don't care what color a man is if he can play big league ball. If the big bosses say O.K. I'd grab some Negro players fast." Fred Haney of the Browns: "The day will come. There are many who belong." And the outstanding players of both leagues, including the late Lou Gehrig, Mickey Cochrane, Bucky Walters, Johnny Vandermeer, Ernie Lombardi, Luke Hamlin, et al.

**1940:** Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis received 1,000,000 signatures to petitions suggested originally by the Daily Worker and broadened to include trade unions and other progressive organizations. *New York, N.Y.*

The Committee to End Jimcrow in Baseball was formed, including prominent sports writers. *4-12-47*

**1941: In direct response to a series of open letters to him in the Daily Worker, Commissioner Landis said for the first time that he was not against Negroes in the big leagues and that it was up to the individual owners. This shifted the emphasis of the campaign to the owners.**

**FIRST TRYOUT** *Daily Worker*

**1944:** The Daily Worker, in cooperation with the weekly Negro press, was instrumental in obtaining the first tryout for Negro players at the Brooklyn Dodger camp in Bear Mountain. *N.Y.*

**1946:** With the end of the war, the campaign was renewed with a series of letters to the big league owners asking if they would sign qualified Negro players. Positive answers were received from Brooklyn, Pittsburgh and Detroit. The others stalled. The campaign, carried solely by the Daily Worker for years, was now a national issue and constantly discussed in all sports pages. *4-12-47*

Jackie Robinson was signed by the Brooklyn organization to play for Montreal in the International League, the first big break in the Jimcrow barrier of organized ball. Four other Negro players were signed by the Brooklyn organization. All played prominent roles in winning pennants for their teams at Nashau, New Hampshire, Three Rivers, Canada, and Montreal. *Sat.*

**1947:** Roy Campanella was moved up from Nashau to Montreal. Jackie Robinson signed to play for the Dodgers.

## Even Company League Ends Jim Crow Quota

*Daily Worker*

GARY, Ind.—Another victory against baseball Jimcrow can be racked up on the scoreboard, now that the company-sponsored Calumet Industrial Baseball League has unanimously voted to abolish a rule which previously forbade any league team from using more than four Negroes on its club at the same time.

The League here is composed primarily of company-sponsored teams, and includes such industrial entries as Inland Steel, Standard and Sinclair Oil, General American Transportation, Aerocoach, merchants and VFW posts. *Mon. 5-19-47*

# Martin Again NAL President

CHICAGO—Dr. J. B. Martin of the Chicago American Giants was again named president of the Negro American Baseball League at its annual meeting at the Grand Hotel here last week. Others elected to office were Ernest Wright, Cleveland, vice-president; J. L. Wilkerson, Kansas City, treasurer; Frank Young, Chicago Defender, secretary, and Dr. W. S. Martin, chaplain.

J. B. Martin

Application of the Cincinnati Crescents, owned by Abe Saperstein, white, and managed by W. S. Welch, to become a member of the loop was tabled until the next league meeting. Favorable action is anticipated, provided an eighth club is available in either Detroit or St. Louis.

One trade was consummated, that sending Chicago's James Nelson, third baseman, to Cleveland for Buddy Armour, outfielder.

# N. Y. Minister New NNL Prexy

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

## Owners Oust Tom Wilson, Install First 'Independent' Administration

Sat. 1-11-47

**By STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

NEW YORK—The Negro National League elected its first independent president in history here Sunday night when club members voted 4 to 2 to install Dr. John W. Johnson, New York minister, as head of the organization.

Dr. Johnson, pastor of St. Martin's Episcopal Church, 121st and Lenox Ave., will serve for one year at a salary estimated at $3,000. 1-11-47

He is 49 years old. Two years ago he served as chairman of the Interracial Mayor's Committee on Baseball, set up by Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia to study discrimination in organized baseball. Except for this experience, the new president has had no previous connection with professional baseball.

Selection of Dr. Johnson marks the first time in its 12 years of organization that the Negro National League has not been headed by one of its club owners. W. A. (Gus) Greenlee of the Pittsburgh Crawfords served as president from 1934 to 1937. He was succeeded by Thomas T. (Tom) Wilson of the Baltimore Elite Giants, who had held the post since 1938.

### Wilson Only Opponent

Wilson was the only other nominee, an early move to seat Frank Forbes, New York boxing judge, petering out before the meeting got under way.

Only Wilson's club, the Elites, and the Philadelphia Stars, represented by Ed Bolden and Ed Gottlieb, the latter white, voted to retain him.

Casting ballots in favor of Dr. Johnson were Newark Eagles (Abe and Mrs. Effa Manley), Homestead Grays (Rufus Jackson and Mrs. Ethel Posey), New York Cubans (Alex Pompez), and New York Black Yankees (James and Mrs. Maude Semler). Sat. 1-11-47

The new president, while admitting that he does not know much about baseball, is no stranger to athletics. He played three years of varsity basketball at Columbia University prior to his graduation from that school in 1920, and later saw service with a semi-pro cage club during the era of the great Loendi and St. Christopher teams.

He is a native of Richmond, Va., was educated in that city and in New York, and has been a pastor in the Episcopal Church for 24 years.

### Needs No Counsel

In his first press conference, held immediately after his acceptance of the presidency, Dr. Johnson said: Sat. 1-11-47

"I shall endeavor to do the job that needs to be done. Among the first steps to be taken is the drafting of a new constitution, in which my powers as president will be clearly defined." Sat. 1-11-47

He told newspapermen he did not feel the need of counsel from the club owners, thus checking any possible suggestion that he may be controlled or influenced by any member of the league.

He said that he intended to press for recognition of the NNL by major leagues and to "confer with any person or group who might be able to help us."

A committee will be appointed to draw up a new constitution at an early date, he said. Other officers elected were Alex Pompez, vice president; Abe Manley, treasurer, and Curtis Leake, NYC, secretary.

Don Newcombe

# Newcombe Gains 2nd Nashua Win

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

NASHUA, N.H.—Big Don Newcombe, former Newark Eagles' hurling ace, was credited with his second win of the New England Baseball League season here Thursday when the Nashua Dodgers defeated the Lynn Red Sox, 7-2.

Although he was compelled to leave the game in the fourth with a sore arm, Newcombe gave his successor, Francis Smith, white, a 5-2 lead upon which to work before retiring.

Big Don watched the last few innings of the game from the stands.

| NASHUA | Ab. | R. | H. | O. | A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Yaegar,cf | 4 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| Lipka,3b | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Kellog,1b | 4 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 1 |
| Bodan,lf | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Sporn,rf | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Wood,2b | 4 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 3 |
| King,ss | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| O'Neil,c | 4 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 1 |
| Ne'cobe,p | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| T'tls | 33 | 7 | 10 | 27 | 15 |

| LYNN | Ab. | R. | H. | O. | A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Don'son,rf | 5 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| Nadel,2b | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 6 |
| Shirley,cf | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Van E'an,lf | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Chap'an,ss | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Atkins,1b | 3 | 2 | 0 | 13 | 0 |
| Banta,3b | 3 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| Argeros,c | 3 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| Lemish,p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Griffin,a | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Honan,p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Smith,b | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| T'tls | 30 | 2 | 5 | 24 | 18 |

SCORE BY INNINGS

Nashua ............... 1 0 4 0 0 2 0 0 x—7
Lynn ............... 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0—2

a—batted for Lemish in 7th. b—batted for Honan in 9th. RBI—Yaegar, Lipka, Wood, Banta, Argeros. 2BH—Sporn. 3BH—Yaegar. Hits off Newcombe 4 in 3 1-3, off Smith, 1 in 5 2-3, off Lemish 9 in 6, off Honan 1 in 2. Bases on balls—Newcombe 5, Smith 2, Lemish 3. SO—Newcombe 1, Smith 5, Lemish 2, Honan 1. Balk by Lemish. Sat. 5-24-47

# That's No. 14 For Nashua's Don Newcombe

Pittsburgh Courier Sat. 7-26-47

NASHUA—Don chalked up his fourteenth win of the season here Sunday to go out front in the race for pitching honors, defeating Lynn's Harry Pilarski, 6—2, to take the lead from the Lynn righthander, who a week ago was tied with Don for the league's pitching leadership with 12 wins and three losses.

Giving up only 5 hits to the New England League leaders, Don fanned 11 of them to raise his season's total of strikeouts to 107 and walked only four batters to come up with one of his finest games of the season.

Some fast base running gave Don a hit in the eighth inning when he beat out a bunt down the first baseline for a single.

One of Don's fourteen wins includes a 23—7 win over Portland three weeks ago, the league's top-scoring game of the 1947 season.

# Newcombe in 1-Hitter as Nashua Scores, 1-0

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

NASHUA, N.H.—Big Don Newcombe, completely recovered from the sore arm which made him withdraw from his last winning mound performance, turned in a one-hit 1-0 victory over the Providence Chiefs, here Monday night. Sat. 5-31-47

The former Newark Eagle righthander, hurled super ball as the Dodgers downed their third-place New England League foes for their ninth win of the campaign. It was Newcombe's third score in as many starts.

Newcombe walked only one batter, struck out four and gave up his lone hit in the second inning when Centerfielder Bob Montag, drove a legitimate blow to center.

His opponent, Elmo Comotti, white, was nicked for nine safeties but was also effective in the pinches. He permitted the deciding tally to score when he walked a pinch-hitter with the bases loaded in the ninth frame.

| Nashua | ab | r | h | po | a |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Davis,ss | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Yaeger,x | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lipka,3b | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Kell'g,1b | 3 | 0 | 2 | 10 | 0 |
| Bodan,lf | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Wood,2b | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 2 |
| Sporn,rf | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| King,ss | 3 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| Gal'eau,c | 4 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| Newc'e,p | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| Totals | 32 | 1 | 9 | 27 | 12 |

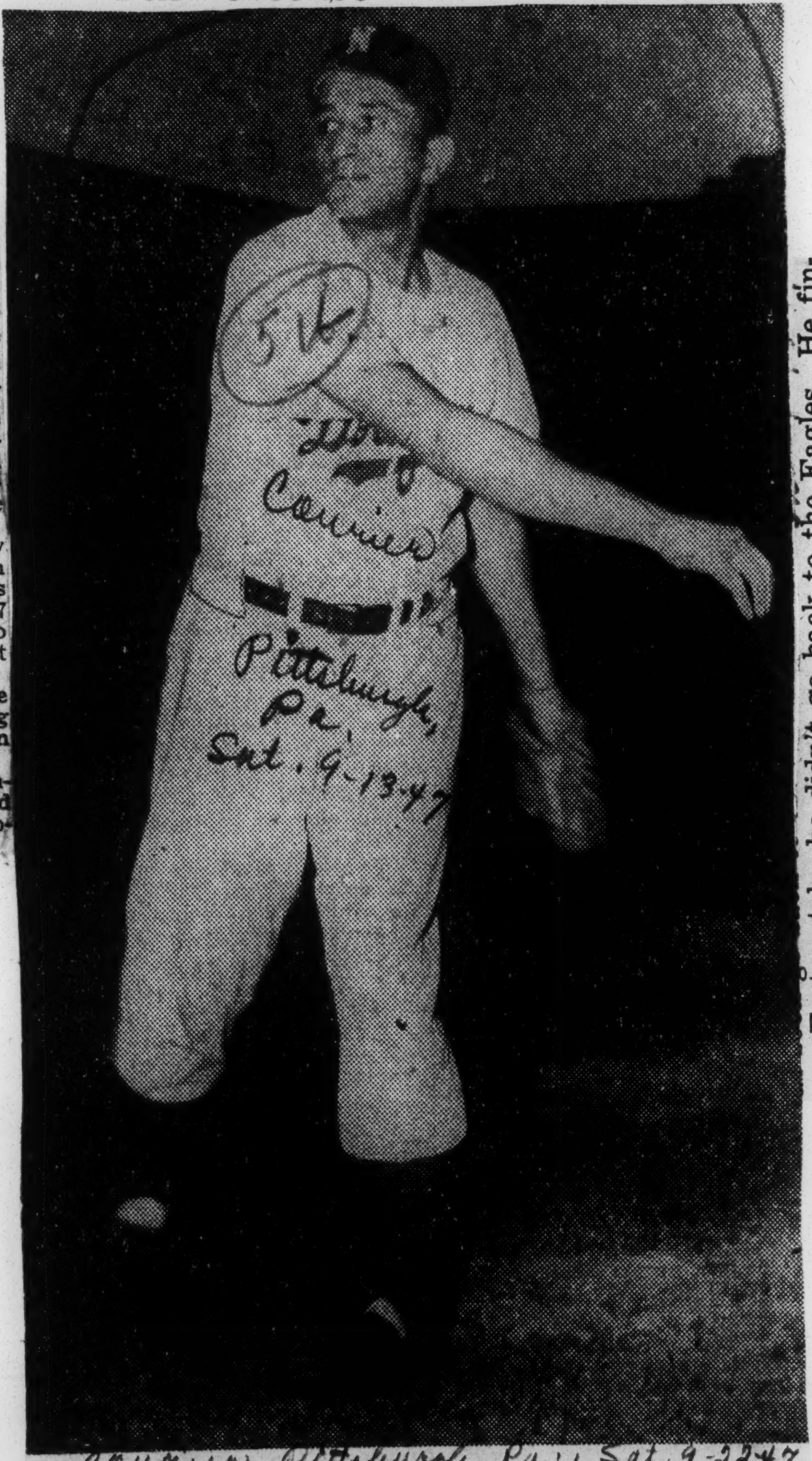
| Providence | ab | r | h | po | a |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jones,ss | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Fox,3b | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| Long,1b | 3 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 0 |
| Foster,lf | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Montag,cf | 2 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 |
| Dipri'a,2b | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| Shu'anrf | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| McLeod,c | 3 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 1 |
| Comotti,p | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Totals | 27 | 0 | 1 | 25 | 12 |

x—Walked for Davis in 9th.
RBI—Yaeger, 2BH—Lipka. Sacrifice—Bodan. Left on base— Nashua 8, Providence 2. Double play—King to Wood to Kellogg. Bases on balls—Newcombe 1, Comott 3. Struck out—Newcombe 4, Comotti 4.

## Don Wins Another

Sat. 5-31-47

NASHUA, N.H. — Don Newcombe, ace of the Nashua Dodgers, won his fourth New England League game here Friday night, holding Manchester to four hits as his mates took a 2-1 decision. Newcombe obtained one of his team's three hits and tallied the winning run himself.



Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa., Sat. 9-27-47

**HE WAS TOPS** — Don Newcombe, 22-year-old pitcher whom the Brooklyn Dodgers returned to their farm club, Nashua, in the New England League, was the circuit's top pitcher this season. Newcombe won 19 games and lost but six. He also struck out the most hitters, 186, and pitched the most innings, 223. He is due for a promotion to the Brooklyn Dodgers or Montreal Royals next season.

## Newcombe Should Go Places Now . . .

Last spring when Montreal and Brooklyn were training in Havana, Cuba, Don Newcombe, the 22-year-old pitcher who had made an impressive record the previous season pitching for Nashua in the New England League, was pounded so hard by the Dodgers whenever he faced them it got monotenous. Newcombe, who had formerly pitched for the Newark Eagles in the Negro National League, couldn't get the Dodgers out with a police escort. He was trying for a berth with Montreal and his performances against Brooklyn were to determine whether he was to be promoted from Nashua to the International League club.

He just didn't have it against the big leaguers and the Dodger bosses decided he wasn't ready. "That kid is going to be a good pitcher," Branch Rickey said following one of Brooklyn's assaults on the 6 foot 4-inch Negro youngster. "All he needs to do is develop a good curve ball."

Newcombe had a good fast ball. It had plenty of zip and hop. But he had no curve or change-of-pace. He was merely a thrower who depended solely on speed.

"Don," Rickey said to Newcombe, "we're sending you back to Nashua. We want you to develop a curve ball. You can't get by on speed alone."

Newcombe was disappointed. Jackie Robinson and Roy Campanella were bth doing well. Campanella was moving up from Nashua to Montreal. Robinson was on his way to the Dodgers. Then, too, for some strange reason he didn't believe he could develop a curve.

"I can't develop the kind of curve they want," he told me. "If I haven't got one now, I'll never have one. I'd just as soon go back to the Newark Eagles."

Fortunately, he didn't go back to the Eagles. He finally decided to return to Nashua. As soon as he got there he started working on a curve. Day in and day out, Newcombe worked on his hook and suddenly he found it. Now the final pitching averages show that he is the best pitcher in the New England League. He won 19 games this year and lost only six. He struck out 186 batters, five more than any other pitcher in the league. He pitched more innings and won more games than any hurler in the circuit. This was his most successful season in the five years he has been in professional baseball.

Newcombe succeeded because he took Rickey's advice and developed a curve ball. Now he has a good hook and still retains his speed. Next season he should move up either to Montreal or Brooklyn. He has bright future in baseball now, whereas this spring down in Havana he was ready to call it quits.

All of which proves a ball player must have perserverance as well as ability.

Pittsburgh Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 9-13-47

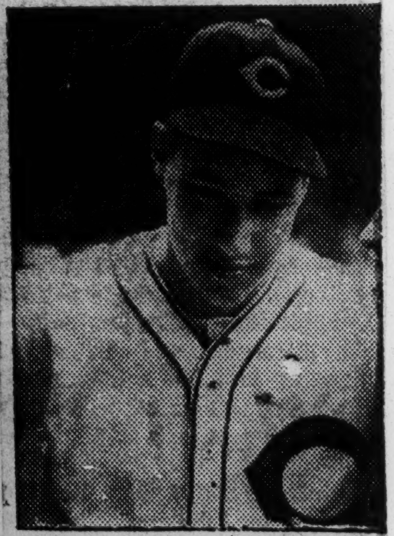
# Satch Bests Feller

51b.

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y.

PAIGE



FELLER

10-21-47

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 21.—Forty year old Satchel Paige, rated by many baseball men as the greatest pitcher of all time, still had enough of his wizardry left last night to outpitch Bob Feller as the two stars went five innings apiece.

Times.

Satch, kept out of the big leagues by Jimcrow and now considered too old, gave three hits, as did Feller, but fanned eight of the big leaguers to five for Feller. The Feller All Stars won the game over the Kansas City Royals 2-1 when Royal relief pitcher Williams yielded home runs to Andy Pafko and Gerry Priddy.

The Negro team scored off Feller in the second inning when Bill Hoskins singled, stole second and came home on Goose Tatum's safe drive. Paige got the biggest ovation of the night when he left the field.

51b 1947

Ray Poat

## Another Negro Joins Major League Ranks

NEW YORK, Aug. 26.—(AP)—The New York Giants tonight announced the purchase of Ray Poat, 29-year-old righthanded pitcher, from the Baltimore Orioles of the International League to bolster their crippled mound staff. Advertiser

The 6-foot, 2-inch 210-pounder will report to Manager Mel Ott here tomorrow and may see action soon, since Clint Hartung is nursing a sore arm, Mort Cooper is recovering from an operation and Monte Kennedy is out with a broken finger. 8-27-47

Formerly the property of the Cleveland Indians, Poat has been with Baltimore the past two seasons. He has won 12 games and lost seven with the last-place Orioles this year. Wed.

A club spokesman declined to name the total involved in the straight cash deal but described it as a "pretty substantial figure."

51b 1947

Jackie Robinson

# The Robinson Box Score

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

**BATTING AVERAGE .300**

Sat. 6-28-47

**JACKIE ROBINSON'S RECORD**

| Against | G. | AB. | R. | H. | SO. | W. | 2B. | 3B. | HR. | RBI. | DP. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Boston ........ | 6 | 19 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| New York ..... | 7 | 27 | 6 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| Chicago ........ | 9 | 36 | 8 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Pittsburgh ..... | 7 | 24 | 5 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| Philadelphia ... | 10 | 40 | 8 | 18 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Cincinnati ..... | 9 | 37 | 5 | 15 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| St. Louis ...... | 10 | 40 | 6 | 10 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Totals ..... | 58 | 223 | 48 | 67 | 8 | 17 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 14 | 9 |

Stolen bases—9.

Sat. 6-28-47

DP. means number of double plays hit into.

# THE SPORTS BEAT

**By WENDELL SMITH**

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

Sat. 6-28-47

## Robinson's No Longer a 'Side Show' . . .

CINCINNATI—When Jackie Robinson first signed to play with the Brooklyn Dodgers, he automatically became a one-man circus. Being the first Negro to play in the majors put him in the public's eye parobably as no player had ever been before. Ordinarily, a player is signed by a mojor league club and after the usual announcement is made there isn't a lot of fanfare. But Robinson's case was an exception. It was the "baseball story of the year" and the Press took advantage of it. Consequently, the Dodger first baseman was in the same position as the two-headed man in the circus. Everyone wanted to see him. Some, because they were skeptical, and others, because they considered him something new and different.

**Even his own teammates looked upon him with a strange curiosity. Many of them accepted him as the "real thing," not as a sideshow "freak." But there were others who, deep down inside, objected to his presence. They didn't want him on the club, didn't want to associate with him and didn't want to admit that they played ball on the same team with this "freak" of the diamond.**

But after traveling with the Dodgers for the past three months we are convinced that Robinson has leaped over all the "rough spots" and is now entering the phase of his major league career in which he will be treated more like a player and less like a two-headed man. On his first trip around the circuit, he had to adjust himself to all the fanfare. He also had to prove to his teammates that he was placed on first base because he was a big leaguer, not just a Negro on a big league club. That first trip was a big test for Robinson and he spent as much time trying to handle the "situation" as he did playing ball. This second swing around the loop, however, has been much better. That is probably why he is playing better. He has less to worry about off the diamond. He is now finding himself, after the fans and players have gotten used to having him around.

* * *

## Noticeable Change in the Team . . .

**The most important and noticeable change in this peculiar picture is within the team itself. Robinson is now definitely one of the Dodgers. He is "one of the boys" and treated that way by his teammates. No one on the team seems to resent his presence any more, and Jackie seems to have won them over simply, by being himself at all times and consequently winning their respect. Playing with the Brooklyn Dodgers is a job to Robinson. He makes his living playing baseball and the first base bag is to him what a work bench is to a carpenter. That is where he labors and turns out a product. When the day is done he goes his way, and the others who work beside him go theirs. The next day it is the same thing all over again. He does his work and they do theirs.**

Sat. 6-28-47

One of the best examples of how Robinson has been accepted by his teammates was evident last Friday when the Dodgers stopped off in Danville, Ill., to play an exhibition game with their farm club in the "Three I" League. The game was a night tilt and we arrived in Danville from Chicago about noon. That meant, of course, that the players had a whole afternoon to themselves. Following a luncheon in their honor at a Danville country club, most of the players decided to get in a round of golf. When we teed off, a big crowd followed us. They had heard Jackie was a good golfer and wanted to see for themselves. Playing in front of us was a foursome composed of Pee Wee Reese, the Dodgers' great shortstop; Rex Barney, a brilliant young pitcher; Harold Parrott, the team's secretary, and Roscoe McGowan, baseball writer for the New York Times. After we had played about four holes, we caught up with them.

**"Why don't you two join us?" Reese said. "We can make this a six-some, although that's against the rules. There aren't many people out here today and it won't make much difference." We accepted the invitation and played the remaining fourteen holes with them.**

* * *

## He Is More Than Just a First Sacker . . .

It was during that trek over the hilly Danville golf course that we became convinced Robinson is more than just a first baseman on the Brooklyn team. Reese and Barney showed, without knowing it, during that golf game that they like Robinson and that he is one of them. Throughout the game, they joked and kidded with Jackie and he did the same with them. They were three baseball players and without actually saying it to each other, they admitted that each had something in common.

**There have been many other instances on this trip similar to the golfing episode, all of which indicate that Robinson is not, as one writer put it, "the loneliest man in sports." There is harmony and unity on the Brooklyn club and Jackie is a part of it. He is no longer a player apart from the rest of them. He is no longer a curiosity, or a "strange man from another world." Robinson is a Dodger, the team's first baseman and an important cog in the lineup. The players like him and he likes them. That's why the Dodgers are going to be a hard team to beat this season. It's all for one and one for all on that ball club . . . Jackie Robinson being the best example we can offer as proof.**

Between innings . . . Ezzard Charles, the Cincinnati light heavyweight with so much class and probably the man who will knock Gus Lesnevich's crown off his head, played host to Jackie, Sunday . . . In Saturday's game, Vander Meer threw Robinson a fast ball and he fouled it over the left field fence. The Cincy pitcher then tried to cross him up by throwing a slow ball. Robinson promptly socked it past Hatten at third and into left for a double . . . Marvin Rackley and Eddie Chandler, outfielder and pitcher, who have been Robbie's card-playing cronies, have been shipped out to Dodger farm clubs . . . Jackie banged two out of three in the exhibition game at Danville and then gave over the first base chores to Lavagetto. Dodgers beat their farm club relatives, 14 to 7 . . . Ed Stanky still tutors Jackie on how to play various hitters. Sat. 6-28-47

# Dodger Rally Beats Cubs

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Thur. 6-19-47

Coming from behind against one of the league's leading pitchers, the Brooklyn Dodgers made it two in a row against the Cubs at Chicago yesterday with a well earned 5-3 victory. The win left them in fourth place, but only 2½ games behind the leading Braves, who played last night.

It looked like anything but a victory as the Cubs belted young Rex Barney for three runs in the third on a walk, sizzling doubles by Borowy and Hack and a single by Pafko. Only three of four Brooklyn double-plays saved Barney from much more scoring in his five innings of toil.

The Dodgers whittled it down to 3-1 in the 5th when Furillo, finally starting against a righthander, walked, went to second on the revived Walker's hit to 3rd on Jorgenson's grounder and home on Reese's groundout. Thur. 6-19-47

**Stanky started the 6th with his specialty, on balls, and Jackie Robinson cracked a single to left, speeding on to 2nd on the throw to 3rd. When Hermanski singled to short .center .both .scored, .Jackie beating the throw home with something to spare. Hermanski, trying for 2nd, was cut down and despite Furillo's single and Walker's walk that was all the scoring for the frame.**

Joe Hatten, helped by the team's 62nd double play, a total leading both leagues, staggered through the 6th and gave way to Casey in the 7th after yielding a hit and hitting a batter. Casey filled the bases but got out of it and finished strong, but Hatten copped the official duke.

Young Gil Hodges, whohas replaced Bragan as Edward's number one understudy, rapped his first big league homer into the leftfield seats in the 7th to give the Dodgers the lead 4-3. Thur. 6-19-47

**Jackie Robinson added a big insurance run with some flashing baserunning in the 8th. He opened by getting a life on Johnson's boot of his grounder. As Hermanski sacrificed him to second, Jackie, noticing Hack drawn in, kept right on going for 3rd and drew a hurried throw from Johnson which enabled him to round third and slide home safely.**

# Looking 'em Over

Afro-American Baltimore, Md

**With SAM LACY**

Sat. 6-14-47

It isn't often now that you see the name of Jackie Robinson bearing a racial tag in the New York press. It's just Jackie Robinson, or the Brooklyn first baseman, or the Dodger rookie. Which is as it should be.

Whether you expected it or not, the fact remains the Metropolitan baseball writers swallowed hard when Branch Rickey, after many months of debating with himself, moved Jackie into the major leagues. Except for a pitiful few —I could count them on my thumbs—the New York scribes played down Robinson's virtues and magnified his weaknesses—real and imaginary.

**Today, Jackie's feats are given the same treatment as Eddie Stanky's Pee Wee Reese, Dixie Walker's and the rest. And his mistakes are no longer handled as though they're of world-shaking importance.**

**Happily, the flag-waving has also ceased. Except for an occasional sermon, the group of columnists who appear bent on reforming the universe are letting Jackie work out his own problems. This, too, is as it should be.**

Jackie, himself, wants it that way. Not long ago, he told me that, as much as he appreciates the interest shown in him by many of

the naiton's top writers, he would much prefer that they'd stop worrying about his welfare.

"I'm getting along fine," Jackie told this writer. "The fellows treat me swell and the opposing players do no more to me than they do to any other guy on the club. Nobody knows better than I do, what goes on around me."

Sat 6-14-47

### He Knows Best

Severa lof the Dodger players came to him, Jackie said, after the appearance of a biting editorial recently to explain to him that the feeling toward was not as was described in that piece.

"I told them it wasn't necessary, that I knew they were all right. They went on to say that they didn't seek my company any more than they do because I appeared to want to be alone. And that is absolutely true," Jackie asserted.

"From the first day I joined the Montreal club last year, I've been prety much of a 'lone wolf' and it has been that way ever since. You'll recall I didn't even spend much time with Johnny Wright and Roy Partlow. I just preferred to be alone, it's my way, that's all.

**"They often invite me into card games when we're traveling and there's always a word of encouragement when I fail to deliver in the pinch. When I make a particularly good play, they slap me on the back or grab my hand. I couldn't ask for any more. And the pleasant part about it is that none of it is affected ,it's all sincere."**

**Frankly, I think the time for concern about Jackie is over. He can be left now to rise or fall on his merits as a ball player, no more nor less.**

This, of course, is just a token victory. The war against bigotry in baseball will not be won until the likes of the Larry MacPhails and Connie Macks and Clark Griffiths, yes and Bing Crosbys and Bob Hopes, learn to judge every man on the basis of his ability to play ball. Sat 6-14-47

That will not happen tomorrow, no rthe day after tomorrow, but happen it must if the tawdy facade of American bigotry is ever to be reshaped into the professed dream of equal opportunity.

Happen it will so long as men of Branch Hickey's stature are in a position to retain their places in the nation's sports.

One New York columnist insists upon calling Rickey El Cheapo, though it is difficult for me to understand why. But cheap or not, the Brooklyn Dodger owner has established himself as a man of sincerity and good faith, a shining symbol of decency in a world which, more often than not, is ugly.

# BETWEEN THE LINES

By DEAN GORDON B. HANCOCK fcr ANP

The Informer

Horse-racing, commonly known as the sport of kings, has always fascinated me. I have never had a real fill of racing although I have seen it from the mule races on the plantations of South Carolina to New Market, England, reputedly the finest race track in the world. It has been my experience that horses, that take the lead from the post, seldom keep that lead. I have noted the same thing in collegiate track racing, where the leader in the first laps soon retires and fails to finish first. Why is this? Why is it so difficult for the leader to "come in?" Houston, Texas

The answer is found in the strain that necessarily comes from leading. The man or the horse in the lead has everything to lose if he falters; and his mind so often not on what is ahead but what is behind him. This tires the leader for his strain is both physical and psychological. The under-dogs always carry a psychological advantage, for often they strive for "moral victories" while the over-dog must win the race or nothing. Sat. 4-19-47

The foregoing is inspired by the struggle Jackie Robinson is having to keep his morale high, while the pressure of the Negro press is ·pon him. He is our leader and hero and we are pulling for him, but it is quite conceivable that in our anxiety about his future we actually handicap him by too great solicitation. More than once Jackie had admonished the Negro press and the fans in general to "lay off" and let him fight it out on his merits.

Jackie knows that whether he plays first base for Brooklyn or not, is not a matter of press-agenting; but it a matter of playing ball. Jackie knows that no amount of enthusiasm on the part of Negroes can atone if he cannot hit that ball. Jackie wisely wants to concentrate on his baseball knitting and it would be a fine thing if his wishes were more generally gratified. Jackie Robinson even more than Joe Louis, has proven himself an iron man. Whereas Joe Louis has to carry his burden at long intervals, Jackie has to carry his day by day and from diamond to diamond. Had he not been great he would have cracked long ago. Let's admire Jackie, but lets not over-admire him and thus handicap the worthy fellow.

This brings me to the subject of our release, Branch Rickey. If ever there was a white man who merited the gratitude of the Negro, Branch Rickey is one. He is making a deliberate attempt to break down the color line in organized baseball. He is fighting against dreadful odds as can be seen by his moving his training grounds from Florida to Cuba. Branch Rickey did not have to do that. He could have given as his excuse that Florida does not allow interracial baseballing.

Branch Rickey goes over to Cuba for Jackie's sake. He goes over to Cuba for the sake of hundreds of little Negro boys of tomorrow who can aspire to a big league career. Branch Rickey goes to Ouba for the sake of righteousness in general and because of this the Negro race owes him a tremendous debt of gratitude. It must be remembered that there are other big league magnates who feel as Branch Rickey feels, but they have not the moral courage to go to bat for their convictions.

This writer is reliably informed from New York that already Rickey feels too keenly the pressure of the Negro press and is being somewhat embarrassed. It would be a great calam. y to embarrass our benefactor. Branch Rickey the great is truly a benefactor of the Negro race whether Jackie makes the Brooklyn team or not. Rickey has done a man's part and Jackie rightly says that he does not desire to see the Brooklyn team broken up on his account.

If the folks who are enthusiastically boosting Jackie will only exercise the same kind of wisdom and prudence Jackie is exercising, Jackie will play ball in the big league. Pressure must not be applied to Rickey, he does not need it. Pressure must not be applied to Jackie, he cannot stand much more of it. If we would just sit back and let Rickey and Jackie work matters out I believe that in the end we would get what we want. Sat. 4-19-47

Of course we want Jackie in the big league but pushing too hard may be one of the ways to keep him away. How any player could carry Jackie's load and bat .600 in the grapefruit league is one of the wonders of the modern baseball world. When a man is carried too fall there is. The fall from too high his fall becomes too great, if great height is fatal. Let's hail Branch Rickey the Great!

## BRANCH RICKEY THE GREAT

# Jackie Hitting His Full Stride

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

By Lester Rodney

Tues. 7-1-47

**They're beginning to see what Branch Rickey meant when he kept saying, "You haven't seen the real Jackie Robinson yet." The Western half of the circuit recently got a** good look at the full potential of last year's outstanding minor leaguer when Robby's consistent hitting played a major role in the most successful trip for the Dodgers in two years. Reports from the hinterlands were that Jackie, over some of his rookie-itis and some of the pressure of being the first Negro in big league baseball, was finally playing loose, easy and topnotch ball.

Sundays capacity crowd at the Polo Grounds, mostly Giant fans, went out talking Robinson. They saw him power the Dodgers' first run of the opener into scoring position when he hit a fly long enough to enable the not too fleet Stanky to canter from 1st to 2nd. They saw him come through in the 9th to blast across the tying run, steal 2nd and score the winning tally. In the 2nd games he cracked out four more sharp hits to figure in all first three Dodger runs, stole two more bases and made one of those rare plays for a 1st baseman, grabbing a bunt with two on and turning it into a force at 3rd. That kind of fielding take quick, sure athletic instinct, the kind Robby has aplenty; the kind that enabled him to step cold into a position he had never played this spring and do a job of it. Tues 7-1-47

**On the bases Robinson showed why he is leading the league in steals. Because of his deftness in anticipating the pitcher's move and getting back, he can afford a longer lead than most. When he breaks, he is almost immediately in full stride, a facility of every great football back. Jackie was a great back, and you can also see that in the way he cuts the pivot sharply at 2nd without losing speed while flying from 1st to 3rd. Not the smooth, flowing kind of runner, Jackie has tremendous leg drive.**

Before going into last night's game at Philly, he had hit safely in 16 consecutive games. (Actually he has either hit or walked in 26 straight. No pitcher has fully stopped him since June 2nd). He is edging toward the five leading hitter circle with a healthy .317 batting mark. His 57 runs rank him second in that department only to Johnny Mize and nobody else in either league is close. His 80 base hits put him in a tie for 2nd after Baumholz in that department. He leads the league in stolen bases with 13.

An interesting discussion arose in the Polo Grounds press box Sunday when Stanky opened the 9th with his double, a discussion highlighting Robby's versatility and value. Some of the scribes thought Shotton should order Robinson, the game's best bunter, to sacrifice the vital tying run to 3rd. Others argued that he was a hot hitter on a streak and due for one, and the better percentage was to let him whack away. Shotton apparently agreed with the second group. With the count of 3-1 on him and strictly on his own to hit or take, Robby cracked a fast Iott curve off the left field concrete for the game tying hit.

**He won't be in the National League All Star lineup next week. But don't bet against him making it in '48.** Tues. 7-1-47

# Sports Publication Names Jackie 'Rookie of Year'

Afro-American 516
Baltimore, Md.

ST. LOUIS — Jackie Robinson, first baseman of the Brooklyn Dodgers, was named "rookie of the year" by Sporting News, nationally-circulated weekly newspaper, here last week.

The publication, which is devoted solely to sports news and comment, emphasized that Robinson's selection was based solely on his ability as a hitter, runner, fielder and team man.

"The sociological experiment that Robinson represented," the story said, "the trail-blazing that he did, the barriers he broke down, did not enter into the decision."

It was most impressed by Robbie's fleetness on the bases. Characterizing him an "ebony Ty Cobb," it mentioned numerous instances in which Jackie broke up ball games with his daring on the basepaths. 9-20-47

"The point here is that Robinson is not spectacular in a lone wolf manner. His hot-footing has typed the Dodger play. Teaming with another superflyer, Pete Reiser, he inspired the most descriptive line written this year, 'The Dodgers hit short and run long.'"

The magazine concluded with: "Jackie Robinson has done it all, in his first year as a major leaguer. What more could anyone ask?"

# Jackie Robinson Confident He'll Click

PM - Sun 3-2-47 New York, N.Y.

*By* HEYWOOD HALE BROUN

HAVANA, March 1.—Jackie Robinson is in good shape for his try at becoming the first Negro to play in the big leagues in modern times. Robbie arrived at the Montreal camp, down to playing weight and hardened by a winter of pro basketball and golf. He naturally was reticent about his chances with the Dodgers.

Robinson

"Eddie Stanky is a fine second baseman," he said, "and I know I'll have a tough time taking his job. However, I'm happy to be here and to have the chance. I won't miss for lack of trying." Sun 3-2-47

Mrs. Robertson remained at home with the Robinsons' newborn son. Two of the other three Negroes on the Montreal roster, Pitcher Donald Newcombe and Catcher Roy Campanella, also are on hand. Pitcher Roy Partlow still is absent. Campanella already has received attention from Jorge Pasquel, who told newspapermen the other night that he intended to continue his raids against all clubs except the Cardinals; that he would post four million dollars against two million dollars that his league would finish the season; and that he had no comment on the story that his maximum salary offer this year to players he now has under contract would be $5000.

He visited the Montreal field this week. He knew Campanella, who played in Mexico before joining organized baseball, and offered him $10,000 a year for five years, the whole sum to be paid in advance. Campanella told Pasquel he'd think it over, but assured Montreal officials that he wouldn't jump.—H.H.B. Sun 3-2-47

# What They're Saying About Jackie

Daily Worker - Wed 3-5-47 - New York, N.Y.

***(The Daily Worker will not receive any first-hand stories from Havana until March 25, when Montreal plays the Dodgers in the games that will start Jackie Robinson's big league tryout. Meanwhile, we figured a compilation of yesterday's stories from Havana dealing with Robinson would be of interest to our readers.)***

**Wendell Smith, Pittsburgh Courier** (Negro weekly) talking to Leo Durocher: **"He's a swell ball player,"** the Lip says, **"I saw him at least three times last season. He's my type of ball player. Jackie can hit, run and field. What more can a manager ask of a ball player? Geez' the guy was sensational last season, and a lot of people are still dubious about his ability. Jackie Robinson is a damn good ball player. I like him."** Wed 3-5-47

. . . Did Durocher think Robinson would end up with the Dodgers this year? **"Honestly, I don't know,"** Durocher says in a confidential tone, **"Mr. Rickey has everything to do about that. I don't think he's definitely made up his mind about Jackie and the Dodgers. I do know however, that he is giving it a whole lot of thought. If he says Robinson's a Dodger, that's what he'll be. And I think he'll be a good one."**

Sun: Much interest, of course, centered in Jackie Robinson who played the first six innings for Montreal. Jackie was horsecollared in three times at bat, lifting two flies to Tatum and finally an infield pop-up.

In the field Robinson made a better showing. He knocked down a hard rap by Bob Ramazzotti with the infield in and a runner on third and whipped out Ramazzotti while the runner held. He raced back one-hundred feet to the edge of the stands for a foul play. He pivoted easily and deftly as middleman on a double play. 3-5-47

After the game, Sukeforth stopped by to talk with Robinson, who was dressed in slacks and a sports shirt. **"Jackie,"** Clyde said, **"Your arms looks better than last spring."**

"Yes," Robinson said, **"I've taken better care of it."**

Someone else asked him how much he weighed and he said, **"197. I hope to be down to 190** when the season starts."

Wed 3-5-47

**Frank Graham, Journal:** Then there is Jackie Robinson. **"I haven't seen him yet,"** Leo said. Although it was indicated the Dodgers came to Havana to train so that Robinson might have full fling and not be exposed to any of the embarrassments he suffered in Florida last spring, the boy has been working witht he Montreal Club, which is billeted in a military academy 14 miles out of town. This explains why Leo hasn't seen him. **"They tell me he looks good,"** Leo said, **"but that's only what I hear."**

**Dick Young, News: "Well, you can't steal first, sniffled pitcher** Rube Melton (talking about a fast rookie with Montreal named DeWitt). **Now here's a boy who can also run. He hit .346 in Triple A ball." It was Jackie** Robinson taking his cuts at bat **"Why ain't he up here?" pressed** Melton. (Melton hails from Cramerton, North Carolina—Ed.) **"That's another matter," said Ed** Head, **"We were talking about speed."** Wed 3-5-47

Robinson's bat cracked a long drive to left center and another sizzling ilner over second. **"I don't see what can keep him from coming up,"** wondered Montreal secretary Mel Jones. **"He can do everything but stay at the Waldorf."**

## 'Crank' Notes to Jackie

Daily Worker 3-13-47 New York, N.Y.

**ANONYMOUS letters threatening Jackie Robinson with violence if he continues his baseball career, are not just "crank" stuff, to be shrugged aside. They bear the smell of the KKK.**

**The Department of Justice, postal authorities, Governor Dewey and Police Commissioner Wallender must investigate thoroughly to uncover those fascist bigots who fear democracy on the diamond as they do on the American scene generally.** Mon 3-12-47

## *Threatening Letters Received by Robbie*

PM New York, N.Y.

PHILADELPHIA

Branch Rickey, here for a conference with Herb Pennock, Phillies' general manager, said Friday night that Jackie Robinson had received several threatening letters.

"Robinson turned them over to me," said the Dodger president.

"He did not, and would not, show them to police headquarters. However, two of them were so vicious that I felt they should be investigated." Sun

Investigation, Rickey added, revealed the letters to be anonymous.

"I hope," Rickey said, "this ends the matter." 5-11-47

## Hats Off!

PM New York, N.Y.

*To Ford Frick, president of the National League, and to Sam Breadon, president of the St. Louis Cardinals, Hats Off for a telling blow for clean baseball, for a telling blow at discrimination on race, color, or creed. Breadon flew East to talk over with his baseball players the report of a threatened strike against Jackie Robinson, Negro first baseman of the Brooklyn Dodgers. And he settled the matter, fast. And he was backed to the limit by Frick, who made it clear that any player in the National League who didn't like the idea of playing with or against Robinson had better find a job in some other profession. This is action which will be applauded by All Americans, all lovers of clean sport.* Sun 5-11-47

# Dodger Club Buys Negro Minor Star

Macon, Ga., News April 11, 1947

## Colored Infielder Jackie Robinson Realizes He's On Spot in Flatbush

BROOKLYN—(AP)—"I am on the spot and I know it. But I'm prepared for it. I am certain I can win them over in Brooklyn as I did in Montreal." That was the observation today of Jackie Robinso fist Negro to reach the major leagues in modern organized baseball. The 28-year-old former UCLA all-around athlete was still in a daze over the swiftly moving events which made him a Dodger yesterday.

The ex-Army lieutenant said he expected no serious trouble from anyone and was sure that everything would work out fine. "It is not a question of the players getting along with me. I will be on the spot to see if I can get along with them.

* * *

**"BELIEVE ME,** I fully realize that it means—my being given this wonderful opportunity to play in the big leagues—not only to me, but to my race and to baseball," said the ex-collegian who was hand-picked by Branch Rickey, Brooklyn president, from the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro Baseball League 18 months ago.

The well-built athlete, whose work both at bat and in the field with Montreal last year prompted International League President Frank J. Shaughnessy to acclaim him as "the greatest minor league player," did not care to predict how he would fare in the big time.

"I'm just going to take a cut at the ball every time a good one comes over the plate, try to connect, run as fast as I can and play the game hard and clean," he said.

Robby is convinced he can break down the barrier of prejudice. "Once the ice is broken the idea accepted, it will become a natural thing for Negro players to mingle with white players in organized ball.

"I know I am heading for trouble, especially in a couple of cities in the National League circuit," he said frankly, "possibly more than I encountered in the International League, but I know I can take it. I realize some players and fans will be trying to upset me and will have plenty of material, but I went through that in the minors and I am prepared to go through it again."

# Frick, Breadon Admit Robinson Strike Probe

PM New York, N.Y.
Sun. 5-11-47

Declaring that the subject is a dead issue and that "a mountain had been made out of a molehill anyway." National League President Ford Frick Friday declined to comment further on the report the St. Louis Cardinals had planned a strike against Brooklyn's playing of the Negro first baseman, Jackie Robinson.

Frick reiterated that he had talked to Cardinal President Sam Breadon concerning the situation, that he considered the idea almost too fantastic to believe, and that he himself never had spoken to a St. Louis player about it.

Breadon and his manager, Eddie Dyer, both denied there was a threatened strike on the part of their players, Breadon commenting that he had come to New York to see what could be done about helping the club. While here, he said, he was told by a St. Louis reporter he understood there was some dissatisfaction among National League players—not the Cardinals—about playing against Robinson.

***Players Deny Talk Of Strike Plan***

"I decided to talk the thing over with some of the men because it would be such a terrible thing," Breadon said, "and I brought the matter up with two of my leading players. I was happy to find there was no dissatisfaction among the players. They never intimated that such a thing was even thought of."

It was learned that the "two leading players" were Terry Moore and Marty Marion, the club's representatives on the Baseball Players' Committee, and that both denied knowledge of any strike plan.

Dyer was equally vehement in his denial that the Cardinals had ever considered such action, declaring the report "absurd."

"At no time to my knowledge did my players consider such foolish action," he said. "They never discussed it. No one ever discussed it with them."

***Dyer Emphasizes Stand of Players***

Dyer added that he would like to state for himself, and for his players, that if Brooklyn wants to use Robinson it certainly is all right with them.

**Walter Mulbry, associate of Baseball Commissioner A. B. Chandler, said in Cincinnati there would be no comment from the commissioner's office on the alleged strike threat.** 5-11-47

Frick also said he had received complaints that Manager Ben Chapman and his Phillies had showered abusive language at Robinson from the bench during a recent series in Brooklyn.

"I told Ben and the Philadelphia Club that such language was not becoming from any National League bench and I warned them not to do it any more. They agreed to abide by my directive."

In Philadelphia, Chapman declared that his ball club treats Robinson "just like anyone else."

"Baseball is an American game," Chapman said. "And there are no nationalities, creeds, nor races involved. Jackie Robinson is an American.

"We are not making a target of Robinson," he continued. "Jockeying from the bench was procedure long before I was born. Jackie has been accepted in baseball and we of the Philadelphia organization have no objection to his playing and wish him all the luck we can."

## NEGRO CATCHER DISCUSSED

### Rickey Says Dodgers Won't Call Up Campanella This Year

New York, N.Y.

**PITTSBURGH, May 16 (AP)—The Brooklyn Dodgers' pioneering in the use of Negro players in the major leagues apparently will be limited indefinitely to the successful experiment with Jackie Robinson.**

Times

**Brooklyn President Branch Rickey expressed great pleasure today over Robinson's performance at first base but said he did not contemplate bringing another Negro player, Catcher Roy Campanella, to the Dodgers from the club's Montreal affiliate.**

**"Campanella definitely won't be brought up to the Dodgers this year and maybe never," said Rickey. His view was that the catcher would reach the majors "only through established ability" as in the case of any other player.**

**Another Brooklyn source commented that the club hardly needs another catcher since "we now have the best in the league—Bruce Edwards."** Sat. 5-17-47

# *Tom Meany:*

PM

## One Fact Is Clear In Robinson 'Strike'

New York, N.Y.

If there is any ball player in the National League so bigoted that the idea of playing against Jackie Robinson, Negro infielder of the Dodgers, is repellent to him, the intolerant one can look for another job and another profession. That one fact stands out, clear cut, amid the many rumors and denials of the threatened strike of the St. Louis Cardinals against Robinson.

Sun. 5-11-47

Ford Frick, National League president, did not intervene in the abortive strike, as the *Herald Tribune* declared in its copyrighted story Friday. He didn't have to, because Sam Breadon, Cardinal president, flew East last week and settled the matter himself. Frick, however, said that if any player struck against Robinson's presence in the Brooklyn lineup, that player would be suspended by the National League.

"If any player was that much of a damn fool," declared Frick, "there would be nothing else to do but suspend him. I don't think the occasion ever will arise and I don't believe we'll hear any more about it."

The Cardinals were not the first to mutter against Robinson. A member of the Chicago Cubs told a newspaperman while the team was training in Catalina, and before Robby's contract had been purchased by the Dodgers, that he was going to ask the other players in the Cubs to refuse to play against Robinson, in the event the Dodgers brought him up from Montreal.

The Cubs, of course, played against Robby and the Chicago newspaperman asked the organizer what had happened to his cabal.

"The boys just wouldn't cooperate," he replied, "and I don't want to be a loner."

***Any Bias Would Be Sheer Hypocrisy***

Actually any racial discrimination by National League players against Robinson is sheer hypocrisy. In the off seasons, major leaguers for years have been barnstorming and playing with and against Negro players. There is no difference between playing against a Negro in an exhibition game and in a championship game.

Major league parks have been rented to Negro teams for years and the owners have shown no reluctance to accept the money thus obtained, any more than the barnstorming players have eyed with distaste the dollars obtained through playing against Negroes.

Robinson is a precedent-breaker, his early days in the majors are bound to be troublesome, just as his first few months in the International League were. Incidentally, there is another Negro playing for Montreal now, Roy Campenella, a catcher. His presence in the lineup of the Royals isn't creating a tenth of the furore that Robby's did a year ago, because the color-line's eradication has been already established.

***A Reminder of What World Champs Are***

It will be the same with the next Negro player who comes to the majors. Robinson already has been accepted in Brooklyn, in less than a month. Comment on Jackie at Ebbets Field is not about the color of his skin, but the size of his batting average. The fans are wondering if he can hit well enough to hold down his job at first base. The racial problem, if any ever existed, already has been resolved. Robinson, in Brooklyn, is no longer a freak.

As for the reported ill-advised, abortive revolt of the Cardinals, it might be well to remind those players that they received trophies for beating the Red Sox last Fall. On those trophies is inscribed "World Champions." The world, they should learn, is made of many different races and religions, of Protestants, of Jews, of Catholics, of whites, of yellows, and of blacks. And "Champion," according to Webster means "a combatant; a fighter; esp. one who acts or speaks in behalf of a person or a cause; a defender."

5-11-47

Catch on, boys?

## Jackie Robinson Is Third In Radio Poll For Most Popular

Defender [illegible]

**Jackie Robinson, first baseman on the National League champion Brooklyn Dodgers, has moved up to third place in the national radio poll being conducted by Jimmy Fiddler, Hollywood columnist, to find the most popular person in the United States.** Sat. 10-18-47

**Bing Crosby is in first place as the poll reaches the half-way mark followed by Frankie Sinatra and Jackie, in that order. Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt is in fourth place followed by Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, President Harry S. Truman, and Secretary of State George C. Marshall.**

# Jackie in Havana, Eager for Big Try

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.
Thurs 2-27-47

**Just five pounds over his best playing weight, Jackie Robinson had his first workout in Havana yesterday after arriving by plane. When he reported at the Havana Military** Academy Field he was greeted joyously by his Montreal teammates whom he paced to the pennant and Little World Series flag last season.

"It's good to be back," Jackie told baseball scribes at an interview. "I feel a lot better than last year. The pressure isn't so heavy, and I'm just another guy trying to fight my way into the majors.

When asked the inevitable, Jackie grinned and said: "Sure, I'd like to be with the Dodgers and I'm hoping to make it this year."

After a winter of pro-basketball in Los Angeles, plus some time on the links, Jackie felt in superb shape. "My legs feel strong and loose," he remarked, "and I don't think they'll bother me as much as last year." Thurs 2-27-47

The sensational Negro second-baseman, due for those critical exhibition games against the Dodgers in a few more weeks, expressed confidence in his ability to make the grade, and wasn't concerned about not being on the Dodgers roster now. "That's easy to understand. I wasn't eligible for the big league draft. All I care about is getting a chance this spring."

And the popular ex-UCLA star who topped the International League batters last season, was confident that he'd be able to rack up a respectable average off the slants of National League hurlers, too.

Roy Campanella and Donald Newcombe, the two Negro stars of the Nashua Dodgers who are slated for promotions to Montreal this year, arrived in Havana a day ahead of Jackie. Roy Partlow is expected today.

# Campy Moves Up To Montreal Royals

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Tues. 4-1-47

By Bill Mardo

**Roy Campanella, hard-hitting Negro catcher who starred for the Dodger farmteam in Nashua last year, was yesterday promoted to the Montreal Royals. One of the greatest backstops ever produced in the Negro National League, the 26-year-old Campy came off the Baltimore Elite Giants to pace Nashua to a playoff series against Lynn last season. He batted over .300, proved invaluable handling pitchers, and his strong arm was the scourge of the league. Roy was also a big gate attraction and a tremendous favorite with the New England League fans.**

**Campanella will now become the first-string catcher for the Montreal International League champs. Their '46 receiver, Dixie Howell is now on the Dodger roster and Campanella had been working with the Royals in Havana since the start of spring training. Many key men in the Brooklyn front office are as high as Campy as they are on Jackie Robinson.**

**Jackie, by the way, hopes to get into today's Dodger-Montreal exhibition, after an intestinal disorder kept him out of Sunday's game and limited him to painful seven inning stints in two previous contests with the parent club. Jackie has been examined by Havana medics who said his ailment was not colitis, as originally diagnosed.**

**Jackie hopes to be in perfect shape again for those two big exhibition games against Brooklyn at Ebbets Field next Wednesday and Thursday, April 9 and 10.**

**Dodger boss Branch Rickey has named April 15th as the deadline for his announcement on the question of Robinson's promotion to the '47 Dodgers. But it's no secret that the two games next week will serve as the jumping off point for Rickey's final judgment.** 4-1-47

Roanoke, Va., Times April 13, 1947

## Robinson Joins Brooklyn Dodgers

**Jackie Robinson, Negro infielder whose contract with the Montreal Royals was purchased by the Brooklyn Dodgers, shakes hands with Clay Hopper, manager of the Royals, at New York's Ebbets Field after donning a Dodgers uniform.**

# Dodgers Buy Robinson From Montreal Farm

St. Petersburg, Fla., Times April 11, 1947

NEW YORK—(INS)—Jackie Robinson, sensational Negro baseball player, was purchased yesterday by the Brooklyn Dodgers from Montreal.

A yet unnamed new Dodger manager, who will succeed the recently suspended Leo Durocher, will decide when and where Robinson—who held down second base with the Royals—will play.

Robinson, who thus became the first Negro to make the majors, has been working out at first and second in spring exhibition games and hitting major league pitchers with elan.

The former UCLA star athlete last year led the International league in hitting with an average of .349 while playing for Montreal.

**WITH BROOKLYN,** he may be a bench warmer for a short time, but it is generally agreed among baseball men that if he does not start the season at first base for the Dodgers, he will be sent to that spot before the season is very old.

There had been rumors that some members of the Dodger team would not care to play with Robinson but in an exclusive interview with INS two days ago, Robinson revealed that he got along very well at Montreal on a club most of whose members are southerners.

He also said that he was treated well by everybody down south and expected no trouble if permitted to play in the majors.

Baseball men are agreed that Robinson has everything needed to make good in the majors and showed a world of stuff down south this spring.

The Dodgers settled the issue yesterday when President Branch Rickey, who gave Robinson his first opportunity in professional baseball, decided to buy his contract from Montreal.

**ROBINSON IS** intelligent and friendly. He impresses observers as a better educated Joe Louis, after whom he has patterned his conduct.

He is big, fast, strong and can hit as well as field.

Several members of the Yankees, against whom the Dodgers open a three-game exhibition series today, said they expected Jackie to make good and added that they are rooting for him to make the grade.

**MAYBE ED SULLIVAN** figured he'd look like the Great Sympathetic Progressive with this item in his column yesterday: "Brooklyn Dodger dugout and clubhouse treatment of Jackie Robinson making it tougher for the kid (even when he belted his homer, his teammates ignored him, the jerks). . . ."

**Sullivan should've checked his source of information from purely a journalistic point of view—and if he's truly concerned about Jackie Robinson he wouldn't print harmful trash like that. For one thing, I don't recall seeing Sullivan in the Polo Grounds press box the afternoon Jackie hit for the circuit—but Robby did get the congratulations of his teammates when he got back to the dugout. Secondly, about the alleged "treatment" Jackie is getting. Most of his Dodger teammates are all for him. Go out to the ballpark any day when the Brooks are home, Mr. Sullivan, and you'll note the friendly by-play between Jackie and Ed Stanky, for example. Or if you get to the field early, you might see Southerner Hugh Casey giving Jackie some tips about that first base job. Petey Reiser has publicly rooted for Jackie . . . and so on, right down the line.**

Burt Shotten, new Dodger mentor, said only yesterday: "The whole bench is pulling for Robbie. They seem to expect a hit from him now, and it's my guess he's shown the other players he can help this club, and has won them over."

Let's have the facts, Sullivan, and not the gossipy nonsense that harms Jackie and slanders the majority of his teammates.

Daily Worker Tues. 4-22-47 New York, N.Y.

# Rickey Can't See Ban Lasting, Jackie Robinson Signs Today

PM New York, N.Y. Fri. 4-11-47

By Tom Meany

Clyde Sukeforth, the manager pro tem of the Dodgers who guided them to a 4-3 defeat at the hands of Montreal before 14,282 paid admissions at Ebbets Field yesterday, will continue to manage the club through the Yankee exhibition series which opens today. He also might be the manager, pro tem, when the Dodgers open the National League season Tuesday.

Branch Rickey held a press conference after yesterday's game, the prime purpose of which was to announce that Jackie Robinson was now a full-fledged member of the Dodgers, or will be after he signs a contract this morning. Then the conference went into the year's suspension placed on Leo Durocher by Happy Chandler.

"It is difficult for me to believe that Mr. Chandler will insist on the penalty on Leo," said Rickey.

"Will you ask for reconsideration?" he was asked.

After an appreciable pause. Rickey responded:

"I would if I thought it would do any good."

Because Rickey was so evidently sparring for time and because he admitted that the decision might not be made until after opening day, this reporter got the impression that the manager might be a man outside the organization.

It won't be Dixie Walker or any of the players. It could be somebody as far afield as Bill Terry, the old Memphis cotton baron and builder of goodwill, although it is difficult to imagine Terry managing a club with a Negro player on its roster.

Burt Shotten, long a pal of Rickey's, is a possibility. So, in fact, is everybody except Charley Dressen.

In his farewell address to his troops before yesterday's game, Durocher advised the men "to have faith in Mr. Rickey. There isn't a thing he won't do for you if you ask him." . . . He also predicted they had a chance for the pennant.

New York, N.Y. Fri. 4-11-47

***Rickey Dodges Leading Questions***

Although Rickey dodged all leading questions, with the explanation that he didn't want to fence around, he did as much fencing as the average master swordsman. In justice to the Mahatma, he was forced to fence because of the nature of the questions.

PM

Leo Durocher, who, according to Branch Rickey, put his OK on Jackie Robinson when the Dodgers were in Panama, chats with Jackie at Havana. Now Jack's in, Leo's out.

# It's Hello Today To Dodgers, Jackie

5K Daily Worker

New York, N.Y. Wed. 4-9-47

By Bill Mardo

**Ebbets Field fans get their first gander of Jackie Robinson cavorting at first base today, when the Dodgers and Montreal Royals open that crucial two-game series which settles the question of the Negro star's promotion to the parent team.**

Also on hand to receive his first hellos from the Flock faithful is Roy Campanella, the brilliant and hard-clubbing catcher who was recently moved up from Nashua to the Royals roster.

The eyes of all baseball fandom are on these two games. Soon after the series concludes, Branch Rickey will break the news of whether or not he's bringing up Robinson. On the basis of Jackie's spring clouting and his fine adaptability to the new position, inside observers are betting that he's in Dodger uniform before this week lets out. Although Rickey said he may not announce anything until the day before Montreal starts its regular season next Wednesday.

But Jackie Robinson won't be the only reason for a goodly house at Ebbets Field today. It's also hello to the '47 edition of the Dodgers—plus a look at the Montreal team which won last year's International League pennant and the little World Series.

**Here's how that Brooklyn lineup will look today. Ed Stevens at first base, battling to keep the job which Robinson may take from him, Sparksplug Ed Stanky at second, and Eddie Miksis replacing Peewee Reese at short, with the latter out because of a sprained ankle. At third base will be old familiar figure who hasn't been seen since '42—Arky Vaughan, now a 36-year-old veteran whom Rickey and Durocher feel has enough high class baseball left in him to last the season out and be a vital cog in that pennant drive.**

The outfield will show blond Gene Hermanski in left, a position which minimizes his defensive inadequacies—and still keeps in the lineup a kid who has been hitting with venom of late. He was a big disappointment last season, sitting most of it out on the bench—but the Brooklyn bosses think Hermanski will finally blossom forth with all his potential this year. Petey Reiser, will be at the old stand in centerfield and there'll be much interest in seeing whether Petey will cut loose with his arm yet. Over in rightfield Dixie Walker will take over again, after resting during the late stages of Havana seasoning. Lots of talk that the Peepul's Cherce is just about through as a star performer, but that's what they've been saying about Dixie for a long time and you know what the story is every season. Tom Tatum, the promising Montreal gardener, will probably relieve Reiser in center for the late innings, and Carl Furillo will do the same for Hermanski in left. Another point of interest will be 20-year old Duke Snider, the much touted kid who may take over for Walker some time during the day.

Gene Hermanski

Ralph Branca and Hal Gregg will probably see the mound service, neither of them having pitched recent exhibitions.

**Bruce Edwards, last season's rookie sensation, will receive their right-handed slants, spelled later by Bobby Bragan. Talk is that Edwards' sore back may be more serious than imagined. He's been favoring it all during Spring Training.** 4-9-47

And that's about it. It's the first Play Ball of the year for Ebbets Field—and a mighty important one.

Sumter, S. C. Daily Item April 11, 1947

# Robinson Is First Negro In Majors

Brooklyn, April 11— (AP) —"I am on the spot and I know it. But I'm prepared for it. I am certain I can win them over in Brooklyn as I did in Montreal.

That was the observation today of Jackie Robinson—first negro ever to reach the major leagues in modern organized baseball.

The brillians 28-year-old former U. C. L. A. all-round athlete, who bids fair to become a drawing card rivalling Bob Feller and Ted Williams, was still in a dabe over the swiftly moving events which made his a Dodger yesterday.

"It feels wonderful to be a major leaguer, even if I haven't actually played in the big leagues yet," Robinson beamed. "I hope I can justify everybody's faith in me."

The star second baseman, who had been asked to move to a strange position at first base by his Montreal manager, Clay Hopper, at the request of Branch Rickey, Brooklyn president, said it mattered little to him where he played, as long as he saw action.

"Naturally, I prefer to play secand, but I'm beginning to like first base," he said. "I still have a little trouble with the glove. I can't seem to get the thumb out of the way of a thrown ball, but I believe I can overcome the fault."

The ex-army lieutenant said he expected no serious trouble from anyone and was sure that everything would work out fine. "It is not a question of the players getting along with me. I will be on the spot to see if I can get along with them.

"Believe me, I fully realize what it means—my being given this wonderful opportunity to play in the big leagues—not only to me, but to my race and to baseball," said Robinson who was handpicked by Rickey from the Kansas City Monarchs of the negro baseball league 18 months ago. "I'm grateful to Mr. Rickey for the chance and I'll do my best to come through in every manner."

# Jackie Robinson Takes To Radio,

Chicago Ill

## Personal Tours

Chicago Defender 9-20-47

NEW YORK—Moving onto the air waves by way of the Bill Stern show Sept. 26, and following it up with an Oct. 5 appearance on the "Big Break," baseball rookie of the year Jackie Robinson will begin a series of public appearances and exhibitions scheduled to take up most of his off-season time.

Signed to a term management contract by General Artists Corporation, the speedy Dodger first baseman will alternate between games, radio programs and the vaudeville circuit until February of 1948, with the Dodger OK. A film on juvenile delinquency will also be sandwiched in.

Currently being spotlighted across the entire U.S., and credited with making one of the most spectacular catches of the season, Robinson will have his audience appeal heightened by the cover drawing of Time magazine this week.

Heading a team in exhibition play at Detroit, Oct. 11 and 12, Robinson will earn as much from 25 per cent of the take with a $5,000 guarantee as he did during the entire season.

The week of Oct. 17, Robinson will play the Apollo Theatre in New York and the following week, will appear at the Howard, in Washington. His routine will consist of small talk and comedy. He may make a series of one-night stands after the Apollo and Howard runs.

# Brooks Buy Robinson Contract

The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.

## Negro, First to Crash Modern Major League Ball, Likely to Play First Base

Brooklyn, April 10 (AP)—Jackie Robinson, brilliant Negro infielder, today became the first of his race to break into modern major league baseball when President Branch Rickey of the Brooklyn Dodgers announced the purchase of his contract from the Montreal Royals of the International League. Fri. 4-11-47

The terse bulletin distributed to the press today by Arthur Mann, assistant to Rickey, during the fifth inning of an exhibition game between the Dodgers and Royals, simply read:

"The Brooklyn Dodgers today purchased the contract of Jackie Roosevelt Robinson from the Montreal Royals."

No other information was given. The purchase price was undisclosed. It was a straight cash transaction with no clauses involved. Robinson, who appeared at first base for Montreal against the Dodgers in today's game, will join his new club tomorrow. Montreal is owned by the Dodgers and won today's game 4-3.

Clyde Sukeforth, manager pro tem of the Dodgers, said that the former U.C.L.A. athlete would start either at first or second base today if the New York Yankees start a left hander. "In any event," Sukeforth added, "he will get into the game. I want him to feel at home at Brooklyn."

The news of Robinson's purchase by the Dodgers came with nessy declared: "I am happy for Jackie. He is a great boy and deserves the chance. I feel certain he will make good. He was the best player in our league last year." 4-11-47

### GREAT SEASON

Robinson had a great season with Montreal last year, his first in organized baseball. He led the loop in batting with a mark of .349 and stole 40 bases. He also led all second basemen in fielding with a percentage of .985. The Royals won the pennant, playoffs and defeated Louisville of the American Association in the Little World Series.

startling suddenness although in recent days it had been generally believed he would be bought up on or before the opening day of the season. Up to the last minute prior to the official announcement, Brooklyn officials were silent on the Negro's status.

Watching today's game with Rickey were Ford Frick, president of the National League, and Frank J. Shaughnessy, International League head. Frick declined to comment but Shaugh-

4-11-47

The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.

Associated Press Wirephoto.

Clay Hopper, Montreal pilot, congratulates Robinson.

It is believed Robby will get his major league chance at first base, a position he has never played until he was switched over from second in the middle of the spring training season. He is 28 years old and right-handed batter and thrower.

In nine games against Brooklyn pitching, Jackie has batted .355. In four trips to the plate today, he failed to get a hit, although he walked once. In his other appearances, he grounded out to the pitcher, bunted into a double play and popped to shortstop. In the field Jackie handled seven chances flawlessly and participated in a double play.

### HAPPY

After the game Rickey said that he reached a definite decision regarding Robinson just five minutes before making the announcement. 4-11-47

The club president said he talked to Robinson before the game and told the athlete he might be brought up.

Reached after the contest, Robinson said that "I am happy to be with the Dodgers. I am glad that Mr. Rickey and the others on the Brooklyn club have the confidence in me and I certainly shall give them the best in me."

Rickey declared that Leo Durocher, manager of the Dodgers until suspended yesterday by Commissioner A. B. Chandler, had recommended during the spring training season that the Negro be brought up and that the three Dodger coaches and Manager Clay Hopper of the Royals voted unanimously last night to promote Robinson. Fri

The club president added that "it still is difficult for me to believe that Mr. Chandler will insist on the penalty against Durocher." 4-11-47

He would not amplify his statement except to say he had not asked for re-consideration of the manager's case. The Courier-Journal

"Any of the three coaches or even someone outside the organization," could be named manager of the club, Rickey said in answer to a question.

"I have only one thing to say regarding the new manager," he added, "it definitely will not be one of the present players on the club." Louisville, Ky.

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|---|---|---|---|---|
| Montreal (IL) | 000 400 000— | 4 | 6 | 1 |
| Brooklyn (N) | 000 200 100— | 3 | 6 | 1 |

Palica, Banta (7), Minner (9) and Sandlock, Campanella (7); Branca, Behrman (8) and Bragan, Anderson (9).

### Robinson to Aid Drive

Times New York, N.Y. 10-23-47

Jackie Robinson, baseball "rookie of the year," has accepted chairmanship of the sports division of the Brooklyn campaign for the Urban League, interracial social serivce agency for Negroes, it was announced yesterday. Times

# Dodgers Sign Robinson

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

**Jackie Robinson yesterday became a member of the Brooklyn Dodgers, the first Negro signed to play in the big leagues.**

**The historic announcement came during the sixth inning of the Brooklyn-Montreal exhibition game at Ebbets ield. A typewritten slip of paper handed out in the press box said simply:** Fri. 4-11-47

***"The Brooklyn Dodgers today purchased the contract of Jackie Roosevelt Robinson from the Montreal Royals.***

***—Branch Rickey."***

**In this manner the 11-year-old fight to break down organized baseball's Jimcrow achieved its first great victory, and the way was opened for the complete ending of the unpopular ban.**

**Fifteen thousand Brooklyn fans, unaware of Robinson's** promotion, turned out to greet the Dodgers. They cheered Jackie warmly every time he came to bat, in a game won by Montreal, 4-3. Robinson went hitless in four trips to the plate but drew a walk to start the fourth and dented the rubber for the first run of the season at Ebbets Field. He fielded flawlessly at first base, where he is expected to play today in Brooklyn uniform against the Yankees.

**SIGNS UP TODAY**

In a press interview after the game Brooklyn president Branch Rickey, who has signed five Negro players to the Dodgers' farm system, said Robinson would formally sign a contract this morning.

In answer to questions he said he hadn't known exactly when he was going to make the move and decided suddenly during the game.

"I had the slips typed up this morning but wasn't sure when I would break the news," the slow-speaking Dodger executive said, "During the game I suddenly decided to shoot it. Robinson knew what I intended to do but didn't know when." Daily Worker

Rickey added that he had held a meeting Wednesday night with the Dodgers' three coaches, Clyde Sukeforth, Ray Blades and Jake Pitler, and that all three agreed that Robinson was ready to play in the big leagues and should be brought up New York, N.Y.

**LIPPY FOR JACKIE**

He added that Leo Durocher, manager arbitrarily suspended for the season on vague charges by baseball Commissioner A. B. Chandler, was in favor of bringing Robinson up. Fri 4-11-47

**"In fact," he said, "Leo asked me to bring him up earlier in Havana."**

**TO PLAY EVERY DAY**

**"I think Robinson is a fine ball player who will help the team in some position or other," he added, "He really was sick and weakened down in Havana." Robinson is recovering from an attack of colitis brought on by eating poor food in a third rate non-Jimcrow hotel.**

Clyde Sukeforth, manager pro tem, was enthusiastic about the recruit. He paid tribute to Jackie as a fine, versatile performer and said "We'll use him every day."

Robinson, a good-looking man of 28 who stands an even six feet and weighs 190 pounds, comes from Los Angeles. At the University of California at Los Angeles he was one of the most remarkable all-round athletes in the country's history. Playing on the same football team as another great Negro star, Kenny Washington, he was a speedy, elusive halfback who received All-American mention. On the track he was Coast 100 and 220 yard champion. In basketball he was high scorer of the Pacific Conference and in baseball he was a sensational shortstop.

**After two years in the Army, Robinson was signed last year to play for Montreal of the International League, the top Brooklyn farm team. He amazed the baseball world as a rookie by winning the** batting championship of the league and sparked the Royals to a "Little World Series" victory over Louisville of the American Association.

**International League President Frank Shaughnessy called him "the greatest player I have seen in thirty years," and Montreal manager Clay Hopper added, "the greater bunter and base runner since Ty Cobb."**

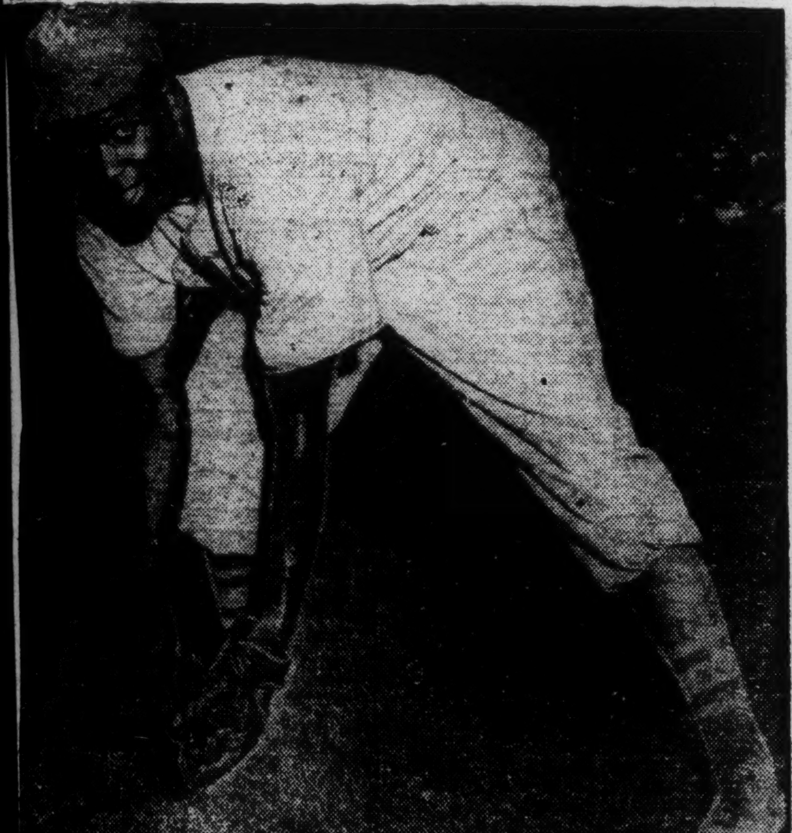
**A LONG FIGHT**

Robinson's versatility will be one of his chief assets with the Dodgers. Originally a shortstop, he was shifted to second base at Montreal and quickly became a fielding star at the new position. This spring he shifted to first, the Dodgers' weakest position, and is in the midst of mastering the entirely new technique required. 4-11-47

**NEGRO FANS**

**There were many hundreds of Negro fans in the Ebbets Field grandstand yesterday. Mingled with signs of "We Want Leo" were others saying "We're for Jackie." When Robinson made his first practice appearance he was instantly deluged with requests for autographs by all fans in the vicinity of the Montreal dugout.**

Symbolically, as Jackie moved up to his rightful spot in the big leagues from the Montreal roster, another promising young Negro player, catcher Roy Campanello, went behind the plate for Montreal.



# Reiser, Robinson Early Standouts for Dodgers

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.
Mon. 4-21-47

## Unsettled Team, Missing Leo, Needs Cleanup Hitter

By Lester Rodney

It's a little early in the season for estimations, but as the rain came down in Boston yesterday, Manager Bert Shotton and his coaches must have been mulling over the performance of the Dodgers in their first four games, which found them winning a pair from the Braves and dropping the next two to the Giants.

There are three outstanding sources of satisfaction:

1. **PETE REISER** gives every indication of being over the shoulder injury that hampered him last year. A sound Reiser can be the best outfielder in the league and a mighty important spark towards a pennant.

2. **JACKIE ROBINSON'S** hitting, bunting, baserunning and general play tab him as a star who will help the team enormously. He's clouting .429, with 6 hits for 13 times at bat, second on the team to Reiser's dizzy .500. While average don't mean too much at this stage, Robinson is already showing what made him the minor league's outstanding ballplayer, a fine judgment on pitched balls, good timing, exceptional bunting ability, tremendous speed going down the basepath which will eke out many a hit and draw many a hurried throw for an error, and all round fielding of a high order. Still a little cautious as he feels his way against big league pitching, Jackie has been taking some good first strikes and getting behind, but it doesn't seem to worry him much. It's obvious that he's up to stay a good while.

3. **DIXIE WALKER**, just as he predicted all through his miserable spring training period, is beginning to lay the wood against the ball Through lack of a legitimate home run cleanup batter of the Camilli type, Walker becomes very important to this club in the cleanup spot. Daily Worker

Despite disappointing early performances by Higbe, Lombard and Branca pitching is of no real concern to this club. Hatten and Gregg have looked good and there is another depths and stability to insure as fine a caliber of mound work as any other team in the league with the possible exception of the Cards. New York, N.Y.

**Catching is another matter. The persistent soreness in slugging young Bruce Edward's arm has every one worried. Potentially the catcher of the league, Bruce has been trying to work out the soreness. If he can't and needs treatment, an operation or a long rest, neither Bragan nor Howell, good defensive receivers, figures to help much at bat. The possibility arises of bringing hard hitting Roy Campanella, Negro catcher, down from Montreal to fill the gap if necessary.**

Reese, Stanky and Hermanski have all had trouble buying a base hit, with one apiece for the first four games. Nobody is too worried about Peewee, who hit well before and will get going. There is a little more concern aobut Stanky however. The scrappy little second baseman fell off badly in the last few months of the '46 race Mon.

**He may hit, but if he doesn't, and the team is losing games through lack of punch look for a shift moving Robinson to second, the position he held down at Montreal last year, and the installation of a long range type hitter at first. That could either be Ed Stevens getting his last chance to deliver or more likely someone obtained from another team like Babe Young of the Giants, who Durocher didn't fancy but Shotton may.**

Gene Hermanski has scratched one hit to date and if he doesn't start banging the right handed batters Carl Furillo will undoubtedly be permanently installed in the outer garden. The young Pennsylvanian is out of the doghouse after a sensible change of attitude on many matters. He has extra base walloping potential, though not too sure on curve ball pitching, and on speed and throwing can't be beaten. 4-21-47

At third young Jorgenson has made it for at least an extended trial. The Spider, one of Rickey's pets, has one of the nicest cross diamond pegs we've seen in some time, and gives every evidence of clicking out a lot of base hits from his Vaughan-like stance.

Stan Rojek is a big league utility man who may not be traded after all. And two long hitting young outfielders, Snider and Lund, are waiting [redacted] Twenty-year-old Snider, a left handed socker is rated Walker's ultimate successor in right field and Durocher had intended to keep him around all year.

**It's a team with a lot of potential and a lot of problems. It hasn't shaken down into its final form yet. When it does you'll see an outfit primarily on the old Card Gashouse order, winning on speed, verve, and pitching, rather than long distance clouting. Reiser and Robinson haven't really started running those bases yet!**

Associated Press Wirephoto.

**ROBINSON TAGGED OUT**—Jackie Robinson of the Brooklyn Dodgers is out at home as Catcher Andy Seminick of the Philadelphia Phillies takes the throw from right fielder Ron Northey. Northey caught Gene Hermanski's fly in the sixth inning of the game at Ebbets Field, which the Dodgers won 1-0.

# In This Corner...

Daily Worker

By Bill Mardo

New York, N.Y.

## *Robby Runner-up on All-Stars*

**THE AP POLL** wherein 233 baseball writers selected a Major Leagle all-star team left little room for argument. Nobody, I think, can debate an outfield featuring the peerless DiMag, Ted Williams (only repeater from the '46 squad) and Pittsburgh's Ralph Kiner, the brilliant Bucko who is everybody's candidate to finally best Babe Ruth's 60 circuits. Nor could anyone argue Johnny Mize's majority on first base. And to those who heckled my rating Jackie Robinson over George McQuinn in the recent pre-Series sizeups may I remind them that 233 veteran reporters chose Robby runner-up behind Mize and a good 15 votes ahead of tall 'n talented Stan Musial. McQuinn was 14 tallies behind the Redbird. Three.

**Whether Robinson can take over top slot in next year's poll with aging Mize figuring for a slight letdown, is open to debate. Not because Jackie hasn't the stuff, which he most assuredly has, but because I think Branch Rickey may surprise a lot of folks by putting Jack back on second base for the '48 campaign. Rickey's post-Series comment with his front-office colleagues wherein he bitterly bemoaned having "the best second baseman in baseball" on first base because the Brooks didn't have an initial sack guardian, is, perhaps, a tipoff that the Mahatma may earmark Ed Stanky for a minor league managerial berth sooner than some expected and bring Robinson back to the position he plays best. I spent a lot of time watching Robby at second with Montreal in '46, and while I agree Joe Gordon aptly deserved the AP vote as king keystoner this past season, still I've little doubt the Old Flash would be playing second fiddle to Robinson in the '48 tally were Jackie filling in that space in the infield.**

Before any of this happens, however, the Dodgers would still have the problem of finding a first-baseman to succeed Robinson. That takes a lot of finding because there's no one in the Dodger chain right now who could step in there. Too bad Rickey let Babe Young go to Cincinnati. The ex-Giant would've been a natural for Brooklyn. A tall, skillful fielder loaded with left-handed power.

**BUT BACK TO** the A. P. poll. As I say, Gordon earned the second base nomination over a Bobby Doerr who slumped badly with the other Bosox. And how are you, Mister MacPhail? Stirnweiss finished third, with Stanky 10 votes behind the Yankee who decisively outplayed him in the Series. By the way, do you remember last year's rhubarb re the who's-better, Stanky or Schoendienst? Well, the stringbean Cardinal not only trailed Stanky, but trailed him by two. Another onetime Redbird, Emil Verban, led Schoendienst by one vote for the fourth nomination.

10-23-47

**I think Peewee Reese is the best shortstop in the business, but a few hundred other writers preferred Lou Boudreau and Johnny Pesky in that order. Boudreau did have a helluva season, all the more remarkable considering he had to manage the Indians at the same time. Boudreau's selection gave Cleveland two men on the All-Stars, something matched only by the Braves and Giants. (Giving you some idea of the superior ball played in the National League.) Boston's Bob Elliot at third rounded out the infield.**

Behind the plate Walker Cooper was the other Giant entry. No argument on a season-long analysis, to be perfectly unbiased about it. Bruce Edwards, second best, may be a better all-round receiver in your opinion, as he is in mine, but there could be absolutely no justification for not giving the '47 nod to big Walker Cooper for his tremendous clouting and surprisingly lesser susceptibility to injuries over the past season. Bruce should win the award next year, hands down and no questions asked. The year after you can look for Roy Campanella to cop. He'll be just about blooming in what I hope will be his second year of major league backstopping. (C'mon Detroit, offer Brooklyn a good price!) Yogi Berra, the scatter-armed wonder, finished fifth behind a lad named Aaron Robinson, whom Bucky Harris got back into the Series lineup in the nick of time. And if you don't mind a bit of pardonable lamenting even at this late date, the Dodgers would've won that seventh game had Berra been on the receiving end of those attempted first-inning steals in the final contest. (Shaddup you sore-loser!)

New York, N.Y.

**Pitching. Blackwell, Spahn and Page. Feller fourth. I differ on one count. Larry Jansen's remarkable 21-win rookie record should've seen him there instead of Page. Regardless of Joe's admitted genius, one guy was a starter and the other strictly a reliefer. There's a big difference, friends, and how my colleagues saw fit to give Jansen only enough votes to finish ninth, I frankly don't discern.**

But all in all a tremendous team.

# SAYS JOE LOUIS INSPIRATION

Louis. Mo.

CHICAGO, Nov. 10 (ANP) — Chicagoans had an opportunity to express their appreciation for Jackie Robinson and his accomplishments this past year, Thursday night and they did it in magnificent style at a banquet in the star baseballer's honor held at the Savoy ballroom under the auspices of the Chicago Committee of 100. Fri. 11-14-47

With the Rev. Archibald J. Carey Jr., serving as master of ceremonies, a roster of celebrities voiced praise for the modest athlete and at the same time paid tribute to his wife who sat by his side. A splendid trophy was presented to him at the close of the event.

Jackie warmed the hearts of his audience as he responded and expressed appreciation not alone for his gift but for the manner in which Chicago fans had rallied to his support, indeed fans all over the country. He said that the tremendous turnout of Negro fans all over the circuit had been most impressive to league owners. 11-14-47 Fri.

Jackie admitted that he had been given a tough road to travel, that gibes and insults, discrimination of various sorts not on the part of his clubmates, but in areas where he had traveled had at times made him feel he would like to chuck the whole thing and go home. Argus,

"My strongest support during these trials, however," said Jackie, "was my wife. She travelled with me constantly. She always had the wise suggestion, the comforting touch, the encouragement to go on which carried me through." St. Louis, Mo.

Mrs. Robinson was given an award by the "Smart Woman" magazine as the smartest woman of the year and received an ovation as she rose and in cultured, yet simple words voiced her appreciation of the honor paid her husband and her surprise at the award made to her.

Jackie said that he appreciated references to what he might have accomplished in improving racial relations, but that his inspiration had been Joe Louis. He said Louis' character, deportment and good example had made the way easy for him and if he could accomplish 10 per cent as much, he would be happy.

# Jackie Tells ~~Afro-American~~ of Ambition to Help Boys

Sat. 11-15-47

PHILADELPHIA

**Although he admits that he is "almost crazy to death about it," Jackie Robinson, the Brooklyn Dodgers' "rookie of the year" confessed Monday night that baseball is not really his first love.**

Speaking at a testimonial dinner given in his honor at the White Rock Baptist Church, 52nd and Arch Sts., Jackie revealed his embryonic plans to operate a boy's club in Los Angeles within the next two or three years.

**Expects Short Playing Career**

Remembering his own boyhood days as "one of the countless number of unfortunate children" on the sidewalks of the coast city, the nationally-famous first baseman said:

"Whenever I hear people talking about the wonderful advancement of our race, I have to agree that we have made a lot of progress; but I think the reason that we often go just so far then stop is because we forget our 'kids.'

"I expect to be out of baseball in the next two or three years, and I'm sure there will be plenty of outstanding colored players to follow me into the big league. I'm looking forward to the day when I can establish a club for youngsters in my home town."

**Lauded for Citizenship**

Judge Vincent A. Carroll, recalling a newspaper picture of Jackie and his wife and son, declared that the honoree was an example of American life in its entirety, and that he should be honored equally for his "typical citizenship" as well as his prowess in the athletic field.

Jackie was accompanied by his wife, to whom he referred as "the one person who really kept me from throwing my hands up in despair many times last year while I was with Montreal."

Speaking of the current "Jackie or Joe" popularity contest conducted by the AFRO AMERICAN, the honoree declared there was no comparison between him and the heavyweight champ.

He said that he had tried as nearly as possible to pattern himself after Louis and had tried in all difficult situations to do what he thought Joe would do under similar conditions.

Robinson insisted that if Joe hadn't done the pioneering work in sports that he had, he (Jackie) would probably not be playing baseball today.

The dinner was given for the benefit of the Community Day Nursry of White Rock Church here. Sat. 11-15-47

Robinson also denied that there had been any differences financially or otherwise between himself and Branch Rickey, Brooklyn Dodger president.

"Our relationship has been very satisfactory," he insisted, "and I sincerely consider Mr. Rickey one of the greatest men I know."

# LETTERS

Time, Chicago, Ill.

## One of the Finest...

Sir: The Jackie Robinson article [TIME, Sept. 22] is one of the finest treatments of race relations I have ever read.

FRANK S. LOESCHER
Philadelphia

10-13-47

Sir: TIME is stooping pretty low. . . . You can bet my renewal will not mature.

CHARLES ACETO
Camden, N.J.

Sir: . . . A great tribute to a great athlete. . . .

ROGER SCHRADER
Fulton, Mo.

Sir: . . . After reading of the booing my native Baltimore gave Robinson, it's not hard to understand why Baltimore remains a minor-league town while Robinson moves up to the majors.

GEORGE H. BOOTH
Erie, Pa.

Sir: Your article on Jackie Robinson was just one big sob story. . . .

Last season and this season [Negroes] have been allowed to sit any place in the park, and not just in the pavilion as you stated. . . .

Maybe we are Jim Crowish here, but we are proud of it. . . .

JIM REGGIN
St. Louis, Mo.

10-13-47

Sir: . . . A beautiful expression of an attitude of fairness in your magazine. . . . I just want to let you know that we Negroes appreciate it.

J. W. E. BOWEN
Editor
*The Central Christian Advocate*
New Orleans

Sir: Congratulations on the cleverest cover background design that has appeared on TIME in many months. The contrast of the dark skin of Jackie Robinson and the white surfaces of the baseballs is only a starting point for Artist Ernest Hamlin Baker's in-

genious arrangement of the red sewing-lines on the baseballs to lead the eye in & out and roundabout the picture area, and to suggest a celestial dream world of baseball in which the happy First Baseman grins his delight.

10-13-47 FITZROY DAVIS

Eastham, Mass.

Sir: Times man

. . . I have seen Robinson play, and I think that he is terrific (I saw him steal home against Joe Beggs). But there is another rookie whose record seems even more impressive. He is Larry Jansen, pitching star of the New York Giants. Chicago, Ill.

During spring training he was put out of action until the season was well under way; despite this, Larry pitched 21 victories and lost only five times, for the best percentage in the major leagues. . . . Larry is not on a team which carries on a publicity campaign.

Miami Beach JOSEPH H. WEIL

"JACKIE" INSURES BABY — Jackie Robinson and his wife, Rachel, received a $1,000 educational policy for their baby son, Jack, in Chicago last week. The Robinsons are listening intently as Truman Gibson Sr., president of Supreme Liberty Life Insurance Co., displays the various phases of protection with Truman Gibson Jr. looking on. Jackie's son also became the youngest stockholder in Supreme Liberty Life. He is now the proud possessor of three shares of stock in the company.

# Sportsmanship Award Given Jackie Robinson

Defender

Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 11-15-47

## Brooklyn Dodgers'

## 1st Sacker Gets Billiken Trophy

Chicagoans gave Jackie Robinson, Brooklyn Dodger first baseman who was this week voted the "Rookie of the Year" a never-to-be forgotten welcome Thursday night when the Committee of One Hundred honored him at a testimonial banquet at the Savoy ballroom.

Robinson came to Chicago to make a week's personal appearance at the Regal theatre.

Cheers and applause reminiscent of the days of the world series rang out through the ballroom when Robinson was presented the Chicago Defender BUD BILLIKEN AWARD for 1947 for being the outstanding sportsman of 1947. Defender.

**Jackie Gets Billiken Award**

The noted Brooklyn player beamed with joy as he received the handsome trophy and said:

**"I thank you Bud Billiken for this presentation and want to take this opportunity to thank all of my many admirers who have given me such splendid support and cooperation."**

Another trophy in the form of a gold placque was given Robinson by Ernest Rather for the Committee of One Hundred.

After receiving his award Robinson talked at length about his entry into the major league. He said he had been paid the minimum wage of $5,000 as a rookie on the national league pennant winners, and that Owner Branch Rickey had not promised him a wage boost for swelling the box office receipts.

Robinson made it clear that he would not play for $5,000 when the time comes for signing a new contract.

"I'm 29 years old and pretty tired after years of playing four sports," he said. The Dodger first baseman explained that after his baseball career, he will devote all his time to boys' work.

Apparently peeved with rumors that "this person and that person" were responsible for his entering the big league, Robinson credited World's Heavyweight Boxing Champion Joe Louis for opening the major leagues to Negro athletes, explaining that the "Brown Bomber's" attitude and character in and out of the ring made it possible for him to be where he is today.

Robinson said he was sure that another Negro, Roy Campanello, star catcher for the Montreal Royals, would play with Brooklyn next year. Chicago, Ill.

**Award For Mrs. Robinson**

Sharing honors with her husband was Mrs. Robinson, who received an award from Circuit Magazine. The presentation was made by Gerry Marciana.

The banquet scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m., did not get under way until 9 p.m. Alderman Archibald J. Carey of the Third Ward who served as toastmaster offered an apology for the delay.

Principal speakers included Lucius C. Harper, executive editor of the Chicago Defender, who gave the history of the Negro in baseball. He lauded Robinson for his conduct both on and off the field; Ralph Cannon, sports editor of the Chicago Herald-American; Joseph Bibb, editor-in-chief of the Chicago edition of the Pittsburgh Courier and Dr. Martin Hayes Bickham, chairman of the Illinois Interracial Commission.

Dr. Bickham brought greetings from Gov. Dwight H. Green and in praising Robinson said, "Jackie Robinson's entry into the big league is no accident. He comes of a good family and by his own perservance and hard work has won recognition in the baseball world." Sat 11-15-47

**Defender Gets Two Awards**

Highlights of the banquet were presentations to three newspapermen for outstanding work in the field of journalism. They included Fay Young, sports editor of the Chicago Defender; Wendell Smith, sports editor of the Pittsburgh Courier and special writer for the Chicago Herald-American and David W. Kellum, the Chicago Defender's Bud Billiken.

John H. Sengstacke, publisher of the Chicago Defender and Mrs. Robert L. Vann, publisher of the Pittsburgh Courier, were among the notables at the speaker's table. The speaking was balanced with musical numbers by Thelma Waide Brown, instructor Roosevelt College, school of music, and Theodore Charles Stone.

# EVERYBODY GOES

## When The Wagon Comes

By OLE NOSEY

Defender, Chicago, Ill. Sat. 11-15-47

JACKIE ROBINSON, Brooklyn Dodgers' first baseman, is holding the spotlight in Chicago as this column is written. He is playing a week's engagement at the Regal theatre and telling the story of his rise to fame in the athletic world and how he became a great star on the Brooklyn team. . . At a testimonial banquet Thursday night JACKIE took a "pot shot" at all of the folk and especially a sports editor on a weekly newspaper when he told his listeners that JOE LOUIS and JOE LOUIS alone was responsible for his entry into big league baseball, pointing out that the "Bomber's" attitude and character had opened the door of big leagues to Negro athletes . . . JACKIE also revealed for the first time that his salary was a mere $5,000, the minimum wage for a rookie . . . JACKIE pointed out that he DID NOT get a BONUS for his part in swelling the Brooklyn box office receipts . . . JACKIE was presented the Chicago Defender BUD BILLIKEN AWARD of 1947 for being the "outstanding sportsman of 1947".

## He Got The Chance

Lighthouse & Informer, Columbia, S. C.

Thinking about Jackie Robinson, the fine baseball player with the Brooklyn Dodgers who has been chosen "Rookie of the Year," and to whom has come many signal honors during his first year we think of a story, a favorite of Dr. S. R. Higgins, president of Allen University, which we think sums up the case of Jackie Robinson. Sun. 10-12-47

In the early days of the last World War, two little boys, one white the other colored, stood watching a plane zooming through the sky. The little white lad turned to his companion, remarking "Johnny, don't you wish you were white so you could fly a plane like that"? Quickly, Johnny rejoined, "No. I don't wish I was white. All I wish is that I just had the chance. If I had the chance, flying like that up there'd be nothing. Why, I'd fly that plane to hell and back to heaven—if I just had the chance."

Jackie Robinson got the chance Johnny dreamed about. And pitting his skill against the best in the country, he's been flying to hell and back to heaven ever since."

The oustanding Dodger infielder, placed second to Bing Crosby, the popular crooner.

## Jackie Helps

Afro-American

NEW YORK (ANP)—Official attendance figures for the National Baseball League's recent season have just been released.

They show that Brooklyn led all teams in the league both in home attendance and, on the road.

For the former, the National league champs drew 1,807,526 paid admissions. In the latter category, they played to 1,863,542 paid admissions, both of which set new high records. Previous best home attendance was 1,796,824 in 1946 and the same year on the road, the Dodgers drew 1,534,251. Sat.

The presence of Jackie Robinson in the Dodger's lineup is believed to have had much to do with the attendance record.

## Mastered New Position in First Year in Major League Baseball

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md. Sat. 12-27-47

**By SAM LACY**

The taking over and holding of a regular position in the infield of a pennant-winning club in his first year in major league baseball, gained for Jackie Robinson the distinction of being the most outstanding athlete during the year of 1947

The former UCLA all-round athletic star gained more attention after winning the first-base nomination on the National League champion Brooklyn Dodgers, than all the other topline athletes of the nation combined.

He was stepped up from the Montreal Club of the International League in a move that was sudden if not surprising. He was placed in a position he had never played before and compelled to adjust himself to these new and relatively strange surroundings within an unreasonably short space of time. The opening of the major league season was just three days away when Robinson first learned that he was expected to take over first base after a year of minor league preparation at second.

*Used Borrowed Glove*

While he proved no ball of fire at the outset, Jackie was accepted as part of the starting infield from Branch Rickey's word "Go."

Using a borrowed mitt and made to believe that the two men playing positions nearest him were hostile, Jackie, never-the-less, began to click at once. (Ed Stanky on his right at second base, was from Mobile, Ala., and Dixie Walker behind his in right field, was from Birmingham).

(Editor's note — In fairness to both Stanky and Walker it should be stated here that both proved themselves to be businesslike ball players, good sportsmen, helpful and cooperative).

Robinson soon learned that it was a lukewarm New York press rather than disgruntled teammates, that he must watch. His first efforts were granted -fhfBovte staoo forts were greeted with a subtle hostality on the part of certain writ ers like head-lining his failure to hit, magnifying his mistakes and minimizing those weats which bordered on brilliance.

*Ousts Predecessors*

But Jackie went his way quietly, so convinced Dodger officials that their judgement was correct that they sold Howie Schultz and shipped Ed Stevens to Montreal. Schult and Stevens were the first base alternates during the previous year, when the Dodgers were nosed out of the NL flag in a play off with the St. Louis Cardinals.

After winning over his bosses. Jackie, by his unimpeachable demeanor, gained the respect of his teammates and soon was being approached by them in off-the-scenes fraternization.

He closed the 1947 campaign with an average of .296 at the bat, 19th in individual standings; the best record in stolen bases (29), and second to home-run king Johnny Mize in runs scored by an individual player. While his fielding average was by no means the best in the loop, several of the 16 errors he made were the result of trying balls which other, slower-footed, less daring first-sackers would refuse to go after. 12-27-47

*Led in Homers*

Never considered a slugger, Jackie, nevertheless, led his team in home runs with 12, this being due to his up-and-at-embase-runtated to stretch a si btjwemthe:30-ning tactics in which he never hesitated to stretch a single into a double if the opportunity presented itself. Sat. 12-27-47

After a fine season during regular play, Jackie came out of the World Series with the New York Yankees in magnificent style. Despite the fact he was the cynosure of all eyes, the Flatbush rookie was among the NL champions top batsmen, headed the base stealers and committeed but one miscue in an error-laden seven game setto.

*Wins Rookie Honors*

As the year came to a close, Jackie was voted the "Most Outstanding Rookie" and the "Rookie of the Year" awards by Sporting News, baseball publication, and the Baseball Writers Assocation respectively.

Others who received consideration for the AFRO's Outstanding Athlete recognition were Harrison Dillard, who swept the four hurdling titles for the year and qualified as one of the nation's best bets for the 1948 Olympics; Marion Motley, professional football player who had much do with the success of the Cleveland Browns and who was named all-league fullback for the second straight year of All-America Conference play; Ike Williams, who avenged a previous knockout defeat by stopping Bob Montgomery and lifting the undisputed world's lightweight champion; Buddy Young, New York Yankees' sensational pro football freshman; Howard Wheeler, national golf champion; Ray Robinson, winner of the welterweight crown after a five-year wait, and James Stewart, Panamanian net ace who copped the national tennis title.

# Robinson Stole 29 Bases Last Season

Defender, Chicago, Ill. Sat. 12-27-47

Jackie Robinson, first basemen for the Brooklyn Dodgers, batted in 48 runs, stole the most number of bases (29) and laid down the most sacrifices (28) and hit 12 home runs for the final National league statistics of the 1947 season show.

12-27-47. Sat.

Robinson went to bat 591 times. He hit safely 175 times for a total of 252 bases. He got 31 doubles. He scored 53 runs. His batting average for the season was .296.

## Robinson Fielded .980

Defender, Chicago, Ill.

Jackie Robinson, Brooklyn Dodgers' first baseman, fielded 10th in the final figures released this week.

Sat. 12-27-47

Robinson was in 151 games, had 1323 putouts, 92 assists, for 1,431 total chances, committed 16 errors and figured in 144 double plays.

## Jackie Second In Fidler Poll

Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

HOLLYWOOD—Jackie Robinson, brilliant first baseman of the Brooklyn Dodgers, National League champions, won second place in the annual nation-wide popularity poll conducted by the famous commentator, Jimmy Fidler. 11-22-47 Sat.

Jackie not only won the acclaim of Brooklyn baseball bugs, but of fans throughout the entire Nation. Courier.

## Jackie Robinson To Be Honored Tonight By U. C. L. A. Admirers

News, Birmingham, Ala.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 17—(AP)—Baseball's rookie of the year, Jackie Robinson, of the Brooklyn Dodgers, was to be honored today by some 400 admirers—including Brooklyn Manager Leo Durocher—at a luncheon sponsored by U. C. L. A. alumni.

The former four-sport star at U. C. L. A. who went on to become the first Negro standout in major league baseball will receive a gift from the Los Angeles Bruin Club. Wilbur Johns, U. C. L. A. athletic director and one of Robinson's closest advisors, is luncheon chairman. Sat. 12-17-47

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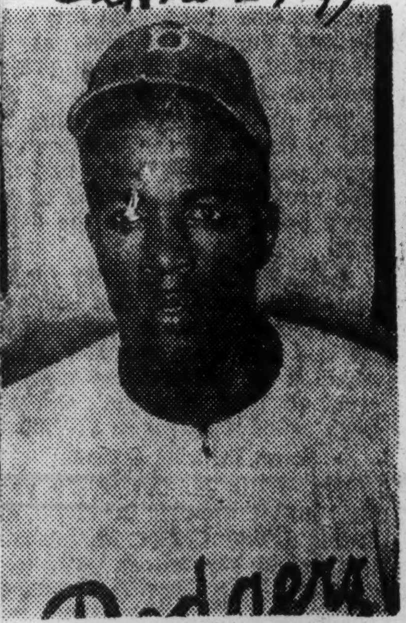
PROMINENT SOUTHERN California sports figures have accepted invitations to pay tribute to the Dodger ace. In addition to Durocher, the lineup of stellar guests included Kenny Washington, Bob Waterfield, Ralph Kiner, Harry (Peanuts) Lowery and Jerry Priddy.

Sat. 12-27-47



JACKIE ROBINSON

THE MANAGER MEETS HIS FIRST BASEMAN

Leo Durocher of Brooklyn shaking hands with Jackie Robinson in Los Angeles yesterday at a luncheon tendered Robinson by alumni of UCLA, where the player was a football and baseball star.

Time New York N.Y.

# THROUGH THE YEARS

By FAY YOUNG

Defender Chicago Ill. Sat 11-22-47

**JACKIE ROBINSON**, Brooklyn Dodgers first sacker and rookie of the year, helped boost the Dodgers' attendance record to a new high this past season.

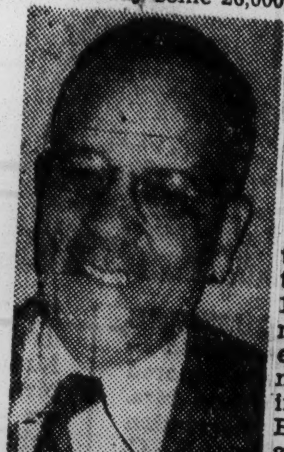
However some figures are surprising. At home the Dodgers drew only 10,000 more than they did in 1946 despite the great "Jackie Robinson Day" after Brooklyn had cinched the pennant. On that day some 26,000, most of them Negroes, turned out to honor the first Negro in 50 odd years to play on a white major league baseball club. That was the day Bill "Bojangles" Robinson gave Jackie a diamond wrist watch and others along with Bojangles were responsible for the Cadillac car presented to Jackie. The Dodgers' first sacker also received many other valuable and useful gifts.

On the road, the Dodgers drew 1,800,000 or ?,000 more than they attracted in 1946 which meant $75,000 more in the treasury of Branch Rickey's organization. Sat 11-22-47

Robinson seemed to be more of a magnet on the road than in Brooklyn.

At Chicago's Regal theatre, Robinson was expected to have "packed them in." He didn't. Reason was a good one. People want to see him play baseball. He isn't an actor or musician. Everybody knows that.

Jackie's wife should whisper in his ear. We are against him being exploited. Let him do the things he knows how to do best.



FAY YOUNG

THEY'RE STILL TALKING

# Jackie Holds Stage Despite Everything

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. 12-6-47 Sat.

By ALVIN MOSES

NEW YORK—(ANP)—The life of Jackie Roosevelt Robinson becomes increasingly exciting with each passing month. The echo of the World Series is but lately out of the public mind but of all the principals who played a shining part in it, Robinson alone seems to hold the winter sports headlight. Sat. 12-6-47

Voted the "second most popular American," falling behind Singer Bing Crosby; criticized by a Chicago Defender writer for remaining a "theatre exhibit" (house falling off) and not sticking to baseball-playing as he should; Failing to get the award of "most valuable baseball player" from the roster of twenty-four 1947 Baseball writers, that honor going to Bob Elliott of the Boston Braves.

# KING OF BROOKLYN TOPS CINCINNATI, 8-1

N.Y. Times 8-22-47 Fri

## Young Pitcher Scatters Eight Hits to Gain Victory Over Loop's Premier Hurler

N.Y.

## DODGERS SCORE 4 IN 5TH

## Vaughan Starts Rally Against Blackwell—Edwards Gets Homer With One Aboard

By JOSEPH M. SHEEHAN

When Ewell (Whitey) Blackwell took the mound for the Reds yesterday, not many in the crowd of 14,577 at Ebbets Field held out much hope for the Dodgers. The elongated Cincinnati ace was gunning for his twentieth victory and, in registering three decisions over Brooklyn, had allowed only a single run.

However, the Brooks were in a savage mood after kicking away the finale of their series with the Cardinals and treated the National League's premier pitcher in a highly disrespectful manner. They routed him in just six innings and carried on to an easy 8-1 triumph for Clyde King, a sacrificial lamb who stubbornly refused to be slaughtered.

This was an important victory for Barney Shotton's charges. Besides beating Blackwell, which was not in the script, they emerged from the combat with their lead stretched to five games over the Cardinals, who fell down in the opener of their double-header at Philadelphia. 8-22-47 Fri

### Not Wholly to Blame

In justice to him, Blackwell was not altogether to blame for the misfortune that befell him in the fifth inning, when the Dodgers ran wild to score four times. However, he was definitely outpitched by King, a 22-year-old who operates with the cool efficiency of a time-tested veteran.

The youngster from North Carolina yielded eight scattered hits, struck out five and walked a single batter in hanging up his fourth triumph against three defeats. The one Cincinnati run was unearned. It came in the second when Augie Galan reached first on an error by Jackie Robinson, went to third on Ray Lamanno's single and scored on an outfield fly.

For four innings, it appeared that this undeserved tally would be all that Blackwell needed. Pete Reiser's single in the first was the only blow the Dodgers had been able to get off him. However, things began to happen in the fifth and the entire complexion of the game soon changed.

Arkie Vaughan, who celebrated his return to the line-up with three hits, started the ball rolling with a single to right. Then, as Bruce Edwards attempted to bunt, Blackwell was adjudged to have balked by Base Umpire Jocko Conlan. This precipitated a prolonged "rhubarb," which culminated in the banishment of Lamanno.

Hugh Poland thereupon took over the catching duties for Cincinnati and promptly became Brooklyn's outstanding hero of the day. After Edwards grounded out, his passed ball allowed Vaughan to reach third. Peewee Reese walked and stole second, as Poland failed to throw through. King fanned and Blackwell seemed to be getting out of the hole.

### Punches a Double

However, Eddie Stanky punched a double to right for two runs and came in himself when Zientara booted Robinson's hard shot to second. Jackie stole second and raced to third on Poland's wild throw. Then Reiser singled for another run. That was all, although Pete stole second and was just nipped on the plate in an attempt to come all the way home on a wild pitch.

Shaken up by Reiser when he came barging in, Blackwell was touched for another run in the sixth on a walk to Dixie Walker, a sacrifice by Gene Hermanski and Vaughan's one-bagger. Blackwell gave way to a pinch-hitter in the seventh and Eddie Erautt finished the game.

Against Erautt, the Dodgers scored three runs in the eighth. The helpful Poland dropped a throw to the plate on Vaughan's single, that had Walker, who also had singled, clearly beaten. Then came Edwards' seventh homer, a 360-foot clout into the left-field seats. 8-22-47 Fri.

It was the sixth defeat for Blackwell, who has lost four of his last five starts.

Harry Taylor, Brooklyn's star rookie right-hander, has been ordered to Johns Hopkins Hospital for an examination of his injured right elbow.

Umpire George Barr took a nose-dive running over to call the final out of the Dodgers' second double-play in the seventh inning.

Meembers of the Dodgers were quite intrigued by a fan sitting in back of their dugout who had all their names ornately tattooed on his right arm.

The box score:

| CINCINNATI (N.) | ab. | r. | h. | po. | a. | e. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Baumh'z, cf. | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lukon, rf | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Hatton, 3b | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Young, 1b | 4 | 0 | 1 | 10 | 2 | 0 |
| Miller, ss | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Galan, lf | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Lamanno c. | 2 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Poland, c | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Adams, 2b | 4 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| Blackwell p. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| aHaas | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Erautt, p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Total | 34 | 1 | 8 | 24 | 13 | 4 |

| BROOKLYN (N.) | ab. | r. | h. | po. | a. | e. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stanky, 2b | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 0 |
| Rob'son, 1b. | 4 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 0 | 1 |
| Reiser, cf | 4 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Walker, rf. | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Herm'ski, lf. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Vaughan, 3b | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Edwards, c. | 4 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Reese, ss | 2 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| King, p | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Total | 31 | 8 | 9 | 27 | 12 | 1 |

aPopped out for Blackwell in seventh.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cincinnati | 010 | 000 | 000 | —1 |
| Brooklyn | 000 | 041 | 03. | —8 |

Runs batted in—Adams, Stanky 2, Reiser Vaughan, Edwards 2.

Two-base hits—Stanky, Poland. Three-base hit—Robinson. Home run—Edwards. Stolen bases—Reiser 2, Reese, Robinson. Sacrifices—King, Hermanski 2. Double plays—Stanky, Reese and Robinson; Reese and Robinson. Left on bases—Cincinnati 7, Brooklyn 5. Bases on balls—Off Blackwell 3, King 1. Struck out—By Blackwell 5, King 5. Hits—Off Blackwell 5 in 6 innings, Erautt 4 in 2. Wild pitch—Blackwell. Balks—King, Blackwell. Passed ball—Poland. Losing pitcher—Blackwell. Umpires—Jorda, Barr and Conlan. Time of game—2:33. Attendance—14,577 paid.

# Day-by-Day With Jackie Robinson

Afro-American Baltimore Md.

BROOKLYN, N.Y.—Following herewith is a concise review of Jackie Robinson at the bat during the week passed: Sat. 9-6-47

TUESDAY — (Pittsburgh 16, Brooklyn 3)—1st inning, grounded to shortstop; 3rd inning, drew base on balls, left stranded; 5th inning, sacrificed; 7th inning, struck out; 9th, flied to short center—three times at bat, no hits, no runs, no runs batted in.

WEDNESDAY — (Chicago 6, Brooklyn 3)—1st, robbed of hit on running catch of drive to left; 3rd, beat out bunt for hit, left on base; 5th, drew walk but again died on base; 7th, rolled to third; 9th, flied to center—four at bats, one hit, no runs, no runs batted in.

THURSDAY — (Brooklyn 6, Chicago 2) — 1st, flied to left; 2nd, singled to center, died on base; 5th, thrown out on hopper to shortstop; 8th, sacrificed — three at bats, one hit, no runs, no rbi's.

FRIDAY — (Brooklyn 6, New York 3) — 1st, singled to deep left center, scored on homer; 2nd, flied out; 5th, rolled to infield; 7th, doubled to center, scored on mates' two-bagger; 8th, walked, to third on sigle, then stole home—three bats, two hits, one run, one rbi, one stolen base.

SATURDAY — (Brooklyn 3, New York 1) —1st, rolled to infield; 4th, struck out; 8th, bounced to shortstop; 9th, flied to right center—four at bats, no hits, no runs, no rbi's.

SUNDAY — (Brooklyn 10, New York 4) — 1st, doubled down left field foul line, scored on single; 3rd safe on second base error, scored on field foul line, scored on single; 3rd, single; 5th, flied to left center; 7th, singled to center, scored on mate's homer—four at bats, two hits, three runs, one rbi.

-:P1!w

# Havana Schedule Arranged To Guarantee Full Tryout

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.
Tues. 1-14-47

Brooklyn Dodger president Branch Rickey at a press conference yesterday said that on his merit as a ballplayer, "which is the only way I rate players," there was no doubt that Jackie Robinson would be a member of the Brooklyn team by April 15, when the Dodgers and Montreal play at Ebbets Field.

"I would certainly be upset and embarrassed if when Brooklyn and Montreal came to Ebbets Field April 15 Robinson wasn't a member of the Brooklyn team, and starred

Both were first year men and so kept on their minor league rosters over the winter. Last spring Dick Whitman and Carl Furillo also reported as members of the Montreal team and were subsequently taken up by the Dodgers. 1-14

Rickey also revealed that Leo Durocher, Dodger manager, had enthusiastically thumped Rickey's desk after seeing Robinson in two Los Angeles exhibition games and exclaimed, "That fellow can play shortstop! He has an arm. He can play for my money at any position!"

Rickey has just returned from Havana, where he tried to secure hotel accommodations for the Montreal team along with the Dodgers. He said his efforts were not successful as yet due to a shortage of hotel space, but he had partial accommodations secured and regardless of where Monteral trained he was now re-arranging the Dodgers' whole Havana schedule to include twelve games with Montreal, thus insuring the full tryout for Robinson., first Negro athlete to crash organized baseball. Tues.

Challenged by a scribe with the assertion that "there is talk Brooklyn is now trying to duck the whole thing because Robinson is not on the Dodger roster," Rickey explained that keeping Robinson on the Montreal roster was a routine technical move to "protect" other draft eligibles from being lost to the club. Daily Worker

He pointed out that Montreal had three players, Rackley, Tatum and Howell, who were eligible for the draft, and Brooklyn brought up the first highly rated two officially to keep from losing them at the draft price. Robinson, who had played only one year and thus was not eligible for the draft, was kept on the Montreal roster for the winter, thereby making room for one more draft eligible to be moved up to the Dodger roster's protection. 1-14-47

Rickey said Robinson was only one of several such cases in the Brooklyn farm system, including Chandler, leading pitcher in the Texas League, and Snyder, a hard hitting outfielder with Fort Worth. N.Y.

# THE SPORTS BEAT

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

By WENDELL SMITH

Sat. 5-24-47

## Robbie a "Hit" in Pittsburgh . . .

EN ROUTE TO CHICAGO—During the three-game series with the Pirates in Pittsburgh the Dodgers found the going rather rough, losing two out of three games to Billy Herman's hustling crew. If the Brooklyn team had anything to be happy about it was the playing of Jackie Robinson who banged out six hits in thirteen trips to the plate. It was the best series Robinson has had and it was obvious to every one who saw him perform that, with some of the early tension gone, he has found himself and from now on is going to be a tough customer for the opposition to deal with.

While such incidents as the St. Louis Cardinal strike threat and the Philadelphia Phillies' name-calling tirade left nasty tastes in the mouths of everyone, the experiences Robinson had with the Pirates prove that all ball players in the majors are not "laying" for him, or "out to get him."

The Pittsburgh club was particularly hospitable and friendly to the player whom some writers have referred to—without actually checking to find out—as the "loneliest man in baseball." Just why the Pirates treated Robinson more humanly than any other club has thus far is hard to say. It may be that the Pittsburghers are more understanding and reasonable. It may be that they admire him for the way he carries the tremendous load he has on his shoulders, with ease and grace. Or it may be that it is a club made up fundamentally of high-class players who are too big to hit him below the belt because he happens to be of a darker hue.

Whatever the reason, the Brooklyn first sacker left Pittsburgh with a high impression of the Pirates. In fact, he has a great deal of admiration for the team and its famous first baseman, Hank Greenberg.

In the first game of the series, Robinson became involved in a tangle at first base with Greenberg. Jackie laid down a perfect bunt and was setting some kind of a speed record as he zoomed down the line to first base. Pitcher Ed Bahr had to hurry his throw and it pulled Greenberg off the bag. In an attempt to spear the ball, the Pirate first baseman threw out his big arm just as Robinson rounded first and they collided. Jackie lost his balance and took a tumble. He got up, however, and continued on to second base.

That particular play was the type that prejudiced writers and players and big league owners used to say would cause a riot. Those who have fought against the entrance of Negro players into the majors have always contended that the kind of collision that Robinson and Greenberg had would only result in a free-for-all and the "good" name of baseball would be smeared.

That wasn't true, of course, but it was good ammunition to shoot out of a gun of bias. In this particular instance, however, it was just the opposite. Greenberg, as big in his heart as he is physically, later asked Jackie if he had hurt him when they collided.

* * *

## Conversation Congenial After Collision . . .

"Hope I didn't hurt you, Jackie," the famous home-run hitter said. "I was trying to get that wild throw. When I stretched out to get the ball you crossed the bag at the same time. I tried to keep out of your way but it was impossible."

Robinson, pleased and surprised over Greenberg's explanation, said: "No, Hank, I didn't get hurt. I was just knocked off balance and couldn't stay on my feet."

Assured that he hadn't hurt the personable Negro athlete, Greenberg then asked Jackie how he was getting along.

"How are things going, Jackie?" asked Hank.

"Pretty good," Robinson answered, "but it's plenty rough up here in the big leagues."

Greenberg knew just what Robinson meant. Although they didn't pour it on him as viciously as they have on Robinson, the big first baseman experienced some bigotry and insults when he first came up to the Detroit Tigers from the minors. Many times when he was trying to break in and win a place for himself, Greenberg had to close his ears when they hurled racial epithets at him from the opposing bench. In fact, one time it was so bad that he threatened to clean off the bench of a visiting team with his big bat he swings if they didn't stop putting the racial angle into their bench jockeying.

So Hank has some idea of what Jackie has been going through. He knows how tough it was on him and that it must be ten times tougher on the bronze-faced kid from Pasadena, Calif.

* * *

## Hank Understands Jackie's Problems . . .

"Listen," Greenberg told Jackie during their conversation, "I know it's plenty tough. You're a good ball player, however, and you'll do all right. Just stay in there and fight back, and always remember to keep your head up."

After offering those words of encouragement, Greenberg went about his business of playing ball and so did Robinson. But Jackie didn't forget what Hank told him. In fact, he was grateful to the Pirate star for showing such an interest in him.

"He sure is a swell guy," Jackie said after the game. "He helped me a lot by saying the things he did. I found out that not all the guys on the other teams are bad heels. I think Greenberg, for instance, is pulling for me to make good."

* * *

## Teammates' Attitude Improving . . .

Generally, the picture is developing better for Robinson every day. We visited the Dodger dugout and dressing room all three days last week and found the atmosphere much improved over those tense days he experienced when he first joined the club. It appears that the Dodgers are getting used to this "innovation" and that they've come to the realization that "this guy ain't no different than any other guy." There is more warmth towards him these days in both the dugout and the club house. Things are going much smoother and he has actually become a part of the club.

Last Saturday, for instance, Fritz Ostermuller hit him on the arm with a fast ball. The pitch was fast and if he hadn't thrown up his arm, Jackie might have been beaned. At it was, he hit the dirt and for a moment no one in the park knew whether or not he had been injured seriously. When the ball hit him a deathly silence hovered over the entire park. Jackie was on the ground grimacing with pain. Ray Blades, third base coach, ran to his aid and every one of the Dodgers came up off the bench. Robinson finally got up and walked to first base.

It was then that the Dodgers showed they are for their Negro teammate. It was then that they displayed, probably for the first time, that they regard him as one of them and that they'll go so far as to fight for him. The group of Dodgers standing on the club house steps unloosed a volley of threats that must have made his ears turn red, and with Eddie Stankey leading the chorus vowed to "get even."

"Don't forget," they warned, "you guys have to come to bat, too."

"We'll get even with you," growled another Dodger, "and we'll keep you guys in the dirt." They shouted many other things at the Pirate pitcher, the majority of which are unprintable here. But, as profane as they were, the things the Brooks shouted were simply expressions of their regard for Robinson and they sounded good to anyone who once feared that Jackie couldn't win the support of his teammates. Sat. 5-24-47

Any idea that Ostermuller had intentionally thrown at him was removed soon after by Frankie Gustine, the Pirates' brilliant third baseman. Gustine singled inning and while standing on the bag struck up a conversation with Robinson.

"That was a close one, wasn't it, Jackie?" he asked.

"Yeah," Robinson said, "too close for comfort."

"Well, I'll tell you this," Frankie said, "I don't believe he tried to hit you. 'Osty's' fast ball takes off, it jumps in on you and that's what happened in your case. I'm sure he didn't mean it."

Gustine went out of his way when he came to bat the next to make amends for the Pirate pitcher. In a sense, he was asking Robinson to forgive the pitcher and not to feel that anyone was trying to hurt him. He also threw in a few words of encouragement, told Robinson he was glad to see him in the majors and then resumed playing.

Courier

JACKIE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT FUTURE

Pittsburgh, Pa.

So when Jackie left Pittsburgh Saturday night and headed for Chicago, he had a new perspective and a feeling that things might not be as "rough" in the future as in the past. Although he had no assurance of it he felt that things might be turning in his favor and Branch Rickey's prediction that "these things will work themselves out" was actually coming true.

Even Clyde Sukeforth, the Dodger coach who has been Jackie's staunchest supporter within the Brooklyn organization, sensed the "new atmosphere." We were talking with him in the lobby of the Schenley Hotel, where the Dodgers stay here, Saturday night just before train time, and "Sukey" was particularly pleased with the way things were going, insofar as Jackie's situation is concerned.

"The guys on the team are all for him," said Sukeforth. "You could see that by the way they acted when he got hit." The Dodger coach then smiled and said: "Yes, sir, Mr. Jackie Robinson's going to do all right." Sat. 5-24-47

I think he is, too!

# Philly Hotel Tells 'Daily' Jackie Welcome

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y. Tue 5-23-47

By BILL MARDO

Joseph Mears, manager of the Benjamin Franklin Hotel in Philadelphia, yesterday told the Daily Worker there will be no further Jimcrowing of Jackie Robinson.

Mears declared in a telephone conversation with this writer: "If reservations are made for Mr. Robinson along with the rest of the team, or if Mr. Robinson ever comes here in any other capacity, he'll receive accommodations."

When news leaked out last week that the Franklin Hotel and also the Case Hotel in St. Louis barred Robinson, Mears had then claimed there was no policy of discrimination at the Franklin but "someone on the desk may have discouraged the Brooklyn club from bringing him to the hotel." Yesterday Mears told us that the "someone" still remains unknown.

But the doors of the Ben Franklin Hotel are now definitely open to Jackie—which makes the Case Hotel the only one of its kind on the National League circuit which bars the Brooklyn first baseman from bunking with his teammates.

# Jackie Robinson says: Greenberg and Gustine Encouraged Me a Lot

Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Follow the Dodgers' Star First Baseman in This Exclusive Feature Every Week

My visit to Pittsburgh last week was a very enjoyable one. I had a lot of luck against the Pittsburgh Pirates. The sad part was the fact that we lost two out of three games. Our club tried hard, but the Pirates have a real good team and we couldn't seem to get to them like we should have. However, I'm sure that the next series will be different and we'll be going at top speed.

One thing that impressed me was the way the Pittsburgh Club treated me. They were very nice, especially Hank Greenberg and Frank Gustine. They made me feel that they were glad to see me in the majors and that I was a real good player.

I had one narrow escape in the Pirate series. Fritz Ostermuller hit me on the arm in Saturday's game. The pitch was up around my head and I had to throw up my arm to protect myself. It hurt like the dickens, too. I was lucky, however, that I could get my arm in the way of the ball. If it had hit me on the head I might be seeing rainbows right now.

Ostermuller is a very good pitcher. I am sure he didn't intend to hit me. It was just one of those things. He threw me a fast ball and aimed it at the inside corner. It was over too far and it came so fast I couldn't get out of the way. You have to expect those things, however, and take the good with the bad.

I also had a nice experience in Cincinnati. Commissioner Chandler was on hand for one of our games there. He shook my hand and asked me how I was doing and how I liked playing in the big leagues. I told him I was getting along okay and that the big leagues are wonderful. He then wished me luck and said he'd see me again some time. It was nice meeting the Commissioner. He is a very friendly person and seems to be a fan from the bottom of his heart.

While in Pittsburgh I got a chance to see a lot of my old friends at The Pittsburgh Courier. I had a wonderful time telling some of my experiences to Mrs. Robert L. Vann, Ira Lewis, Mrs. Daisy Lampkin, Bill Nunn, Stanley Roberts and the rest of the gang I have known for so long.

They are real fans and have been rooting their lungs out for me. It's nice to know such people and to know that they are with you every inch of the way.

By Thursday we will be back in Brooklyn and all of us will be glad to get there. It's always tough on the road and this trip has been no exception. We think we will hit our real stride this next home stand and show the rest of the league that we have a much better team than any of them imagine. Sat. 5-24-47

BECAUSE HE BELONGS

# Cinn. Catholic Organ Lauds Use of Robbie

Afro American, Baltimore, Md. Sat. 5-24-47

CINCINNATI, O.—"Christian fair play should be the first reason for admitting colored players to the major leagues," according to an editorial in the Telegraph-Register, official newspaper of the Catholic Archdiocese of Cincinnati, published here.

The article asserts that Jackie Robinson, the Brooklyn Dodgers' first baseman, is "in the big leagues because he deserves to be there" and noted that his hiring is due in part to the efforts of Father Raymond J. Campion, Brooklyn Catholic priest, who for some time has campaigned in favor of deserving colored players.

The editorial is as follows:

"The deflated Dodgers of Brooklyn have reinstated themselves in the good graces of their fans as quickly as you could say Jackie Robinson. They have done so by giving a contract to a player by that name—the first of his race in major-league baseball since 1884."

"If the Dodgers have not been noteworthy for fair play in baseball in the past, they have now become baseball's outstanding exponent of a much more significant kind of fair play, racial tolerance, which is something that all true Americans, even those who cannot distinguish a ball from a strike, will warmly applaud.

"The hiring of colored players certainly will not detract from the quality of major-league baseball.

". . . . Christian fair play should, of course, be the first reason for admitting colored players to the major leagues. To prevent their playing is as un-Christian is it is un-democratic." Sat. 5-24-47

## Stevens's Release Good for Jack

Afro American, Baltimore, Md.

MONTREAL—Announcement was made here last week that Ed Stevens, regular first baseman of the 1946 Brooklyn Dodgers, is being sent to the Montreal Royals on a 24-hour recall option.

The announcement was made by Mel Jones, business manager of the Royals, and was taken to indicate that Jackie Robinson, who beat out Stevens for the first base post this season, is established with the National League club.

Farming out of Stevens is the second indicative move made by the Dodgers in the past three weeks. Earlier this month Howie Schultz, second string first-sacker in 1946, was sold to the Phillies. Sat. 5-24-47

# Robinson Hitless But Drives In 3 Runs As Dodgers Win

The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.

Sat. 4-12-47

Brooklyn, April 11 (AP)—Jackie Robinson, Negro Brooklyn infielder, had the unique distinction of batting in three runs although he failed to hit safely in five trips to the plate in his major league debut today as his Dodger mates humbled the New York Yankees 14-6 in the first of a three-game week-end exhibition series.

The flashy Montreal alumnus, trying desperately to answer the pleas of 24,237 Ebbets Field fans for a base knock, managed to connect solidly twice, flying out to deep left in the third and lining out to center in a wild 11-run fifth inning. Each time a man scored easily from third after the catch.

A total of 15 Dodgers batted in the fifth, six hitting safely, three reaching base via walks and two on a pair of errors by short stop Phil Rizzuto.

**ALL EASY**

Robinson, batting twice in that frame, reached first on a fielder's choice his first time up. Tom Tatum, who had singled, scored on the play. In Jackie's other appearances, he flied to short center in the first, and was safe on an intended sacrifice in the seventh on an error by Pitcher Spud Chandler.

Robinson, stationed at first base by Acting Manager Clyde Sukeforth, handled 15 chances flawlessly. They were all of the easy variety. He played through the entire nine innings.

"I plan to give Robinson a thorough trial at first base," Sukeforth said before the game. "If he fails to make it, he will be used in a utility role either at second, short or third. I am satisfied he can play any of the infield positions."

After the game Sukeforth said he purposely let Robinson go the route "because I want him to get the feel of playing in the big leagues.

"The boy was bound to be nervous, playing in the big leagues for the first time and I felt it best to get it out of his system now rather than wait for the regular season." 4-12-47

Robinson's mates more than made up for his mediocre showing at the plate by hammering four Yankee pitchers, including aces Floyd Bevens and Chandler, for 16 safeties. The brunt of the attack was against southpaw Marius Russo and veteran Johnny Murphy. Catcher Bruce Edwards was the most prolific hitter, belting four hits including a double. Stan Rojek, filling in for the ailing Peewee Reese at shortstop, smashed three safe blows and scored as many runs.

Johnny Lindell, Joe DiMaggio's replacement at center, paced the Yankees' nine-hit attack with a triple and a booming two-run homer.

New York (A)____010 0 20 201— 6 9 5
Brooklyn (N)______201 0110 00x—14 16 2
Bevens, Russo (4), Murphy (5), S. Chandler (6) and Houk. A. Robinson (4) Hatten, Head (4), E. Chandler (8) and Edwards.

* * *

## Giants Win On Homers

Richmond, Va., April 11 (U.P.)—Four home runs gave the New York Giants a 6-2 victory over the Cleveland Indians today to clinch the exhibition series for the New Yorkers. It was the Giant's fourth straight win over the Tribe and their ninth win in 15 games with two more to be played. Sat. 4-12-47

Infielder Bob Thomson walloped two of the Giant homers, the others coming from the bats of Clint Hartung and Jack Lohrke. Al Gettel and Roger Wolff, Tribe pitchers, were the victims of the assault with Gettel the losing pitcher.

Hal Peck and George Metkovich hit homers for the Indians but Giant hurlers Bill Voiselle, Monte Kennedy, and Mike Budnick held Cleveland without any other markers.

New York (N) ____001 012 200— 6 7 0
Cleveland (A) ______001 010 000— 2 9 0
Voiselle, Budnick (8) and Cooper; Gettel, Wolfe (7) and Lopez.

—ON THE SCOREBOARD—

# 'We Want Leo,' 'We're for Jackie'

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

—By Lester Rodney—

. . . on the corner of Flatbush Ave. and Empire Blvd. stands Brooklyn's most famous news stand. Thousands coming out of the BMT pour past it nostrils distended for Ebbets Field, three blocks away. Up on top of the stand this day sit two signs and two pictures. The signs are **"WE WANT DUROCHER!"** and **"WE'RE FOR JACKIE!"** The pictures—a big one of Durocher, and another of Leo and Jackie shaking hands. Sat. 4-12-47

Although it was Robinson's first day in a big league uniform it was his second day at Ebbets Field and already there seemed a little less excitement, more of the natural feeling that here is another good ball player. There were cheers for all the Dodgers, boos for the Yanks, with all a noticebale special warmth and volume reserved for Jackie.

Jackie bore up good naturedly under the barrage of photographers. When they finally released him he said hello with a little harassed grin.

Some day not too far away there'll be nothing at all special about a Negro player in Ebbets Field but Jackie is the first and for him is reserved a special weight of limelight. It's an ordeal, make no mistake about it.

It seemed almost foolish to ask him the bromidic question "How do you feel?" He said, "I'm thrilled—" shook his head and added, "It's a big day." He obviously has a sense of history, not an easy thing to express. "I'm thrilled . . . not only for myself" was the way he said it.

In the dugout after Dodger infield practice Jackie sat down and soon the kids were thick over the dugout roof waving scorecards for autographs. After a minute Jackie yielded and began signing. Other players grinned toward him with sympathetic understanding and he flashed back a "What can a person do?" smile.

Then those dictators of the press, the photographers, beckoned him forward with some of the other Dodgers and began banging away all over again. In the group of five were Stevens and Schultz, the other first baseman. Manager pro tem Clyde Sukeforth reached over for Jackie's hand and the photographers yelled "That's it! Hold it."

Daily Worker

Sukey yesterday was quick to answer a writer who asked if he expected any "trouble about Robinson" from a couple of the players. "Nothing like it," he said emphatically. "Everything will be just natural as it was in Montreal. A good ball player's an asset to a team and Robby's a good ball player." New York, N.Y.

*

As I watched Robinson trot easily out to first base in the ball park that was the mecca of my dreams at the age of nine, I knew it had to be Brooklyn and it had to be Ebbets Field where democracy broke through. Just suppose for a moment the Giants had taken the first move to smash Jimcrow? I don't like the Giants from way back. Now I can remain an integrated personality, a Dodger fan and a Communist . . .

Sat. 4-12-47

There was absolutely no diminishing of the warmth of first day greeting for Robby the fifth he stepped up to bat, even though he had gone hitless. Brooklyn fans are above all baseball fans, which means they know baseball quality is not a one-day performance. They know his all-year record in '46 and they know he's under an early strain which should disappear very shortly as routine sets in.

At that, Jackie drove in three runs with two long outfield belts and a dribbler to short, and laid down a pretty sacrifice bunt which put him safely on first when a Yankee erred. And in the field he did what he had to flawlessly.

### Leo Missed

Missed Leo the Lip. He wasn't even at the ballpark. He's been broodingly quiet since his initial startling explosion on hearing the news of his suspension: "For WHAT?" Sat. 4-12-47

For what, indeed, Brooklyn fans still want to know. Chandler may have imposed a dictatorial silence edict on baseball people but he can't quiet grandstand gus. Signs seen in the stand yesterday included: "That's right, Chandler, take orders from your boss, Larry MacPhail," and "We Want Leo, the Smartest Manager in Baseball." If Chandler ever sets foot in Ebbets Field he'll catch an earful. Daily Worker

* * *

A baseball writer who's been around a long time came over to where the Daily Worker was sitting when Robinson's name was announced in the lineup. "You guys can take a bow," he said. We'll take a raincheck on that bow until the rest of the big league teams follow suit in throwing the discredited Jimcrow ban into the garbage can. N.Y.

# Billy Nixes 'Sleeper' Stuff

Daily Worker

Maybe it was the two straight losses to the Dodgers or maybe he's felt that way all along—but Billy Southworth, manager of the Boston Braves, doesn't agree with those scribes who consider his club a real darkhorse threat to cop the pennant. New York, N.Y.

"We're stronger and we're building with what we can get until our farms pay off," Southworth said, "But the pennant? I wish I knew what we needed to win it.

"I can't give an honest answer until I've seen the rest of the league. We're far better than our fourth place club last year but I may take every bit of improvement just to hold fourth."

"Our pitching is strong, but may lack depth. Our hitting is good, although not right now."

Q. How have you strengthened so far? Sat. 4-19-47

A. We have Bob Elliott, a fine third baseman from Pittsburgh. We brought up Danny Murtaugh from Rochester to help Connie Ryan at second base and Sibi Sisti to relieve Nick Culler at short. We got Charley (Red) Barrett from St. Louis, where he won 21 games for me in 1945. We also picked up Anton Karl from the Phillies and he was the beest relief pitcher in the league two years ago. We found some catching help for Phil Masi in Hank Camelli, who came from the Pirates, and a rookie named Earl Torgeson for first base.

Q. What about Torgeson, touted as potential rookie of the year?

A. He came high on the market, meaning we had to give cash and players to get him. He has a lot of quality but perhaps he was brought up too soon. Sat.

Q. What about Mort Cooper? (As a Cardinal, Big Mort won 65 games during one three-year span, but only 22 in two years at Boston.)

A. He is ready to go. He looks fine and in excellent shape. Mort always was a slow starter for me even in his good years at St. Louis.

We're counting on a lot from him, along with Johnny Sain, Ed Wright, Warren Spahn, Barrett and don't forget Si Johnson, whose earned run average was second in the

league last year.

Q. How about hitting?

A. The club is in a slump at the moment. I even held Tommy Holmes out of the opener at Brooklyn for that reason and he appreciated it. But he'll hit, and I hope the others do.

That's all on the Braves, but Billy had a kind word for three others—Billy Herman, Hank Greenberg and Jackie Robinson. 4-1947

"Herman has added a great deal to the league as new manager at Pittsburgh," said Southworth, who released the veteran infielder to the Pirates. "He'll be a fine leader And Greenberg will still hit those homers. He should have a good year in our league because of increased incentive.

"Robinson reacted well under extreme pressure in the opener," he added. "I hope he isn't downcast at the way our infielders scooped up his batted balls. After all, the major leagues are as high as you can get in baseball and we pay those infielders good money to do just that."

## COUNCIL GETS RESOLUTION TO CONGRAT RICKEY

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Wed. 4-23-47

A resolution hailing the Brooklyn Dodgers for signing Jackie Robinson, Negro first baseman, was introduced into the City Council yesterday by Manhattan Communist Benjamin J. Davis. It was referred to the City Affairs Committee.

The end of Jimcrow in big league baseball was an "event of national importance, reflecting great credit upon our nation and its people, upon our state and city, and upon the borough of Brooklyn in particular," Davis said He urged the Council to take "official notice of this democratic example of the Brooklyn Dodgers as one worthy of emulation."

The fight of the Negro people and progressive white fans to end the Jimcrow bars ag[illegible] Negro players was cited in the [illegible]ution.

# Fans Welcome Jackie In Dodger Debut

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Sat. 4-12-47

By Abner W. Berry

**Yesterday at Ebbets Field I saw 18 men introduce democracy to baseball—and they were successful. It was hard to tell whether the 24,000 fans came for the sport or whether they came to witness history in the making. It was Jackie Robinson's first game** as a Big League player, the first Negro in history.

In the memory of old Dodger fans it was the largest for any weekday exhibition game. When Jackie popped out of the dugout at the start of the game it was clear why the game had drawn so many. Photographers ringed Jackie; flashbulbs flared and a tier of arms reached over the grandstand rail for his autograph.

A youthful Negro fan sitting next to me confided he knew nothing about the game, he had had to work too hard to play it or to learn it. But he had to come and see Jackie. White and Negro fans surrounding him shared their program with him and kept him up to date on the plays and players.

**"HE'S GOTTA MAKE IT"**

Not far from me in the upper left field stands sat Noble Sissle, the famous Negro musician. He sat expectantly, his chin resting in his cupped right hand. Most of the Negroes sat like him. Almost on their lips was the whispered wish: "He's just gotta make it, gotta make it, gotta make it." For the Negro fans, and those who came for the first time yesterday, there was the feeling of having scaled another wall toward freedom.

But Jackie's support was not limited to Negroes. After he had gone hitless twice at the plate, a kid behind me groaned, "Oh! This guy ain't so hot at the bat."

But he didn't get any further. He was interrupted by a young fan among the group down front that had been chanting, "Come on Jackie! Come on Jackie." The young Dodger-Robinson fan stood up, turned around and shouted back to the groaner, "Don't be a blabbermouth! Pipe down, will you?" From then on, the left field stands were all Jackie's.

A new kind of souvenir was hawked at the game—a button the size of a half dollar bearing the legend Daily Worker

**In the Dugout:** Just before the game, Jackie Robinson poses with a group of his Dodger team mates. They are (left to right) H. Stevens, Howie Schultz, Manager Ray Blad and Joe Hatten. —Daily Worker Photo by Art

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Sat. 4-12-47

**I'M FOR JACKIE**

The sentiment of the crowd was unmistakable. They were not only applauding Jackie, but, as another young fan said to me: "You just can't have American sports and exclude Negroes from them." He went on to give some experiences from other sports. He was glad to see that baseball was made into a real American sport—in Brooklyn, that is. N.Y. Sat. 4-12-47

Robinson and the Dodgers got support from Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania and other states, if one can judge from the license plates on the cars parked around Ebbets Field. They refrained from criticizing Jackie as fans because they realized, as the well-dressed Negro fan from Connecticut put it: "This is my second ball game in life. But I want to see every game Jackie plays in. He's got a world of weight on his shoulders."

And the weight the fans couldn't relieve was carried yesterday with aplomb by Jackie. He's not only proving that he can play baseball; he and the Dodgers are proving that democracy works when applied.

## Robinson Stars On 'Information Please'

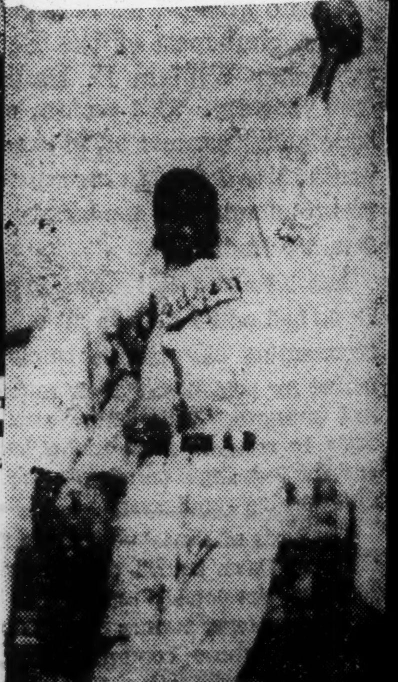
Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Jackie Robinson, Brooklyn Dodger first baseman and the first Negro in major league baseball, showed the same quick reactions on the radio Wednesday night as he shows on the field. 51B

Robinson competed on the Information Please program with actress Tallulah Bankhead, Dr. Rufus Clement, president of Atlanta University, and the regulars, John Kieran and Franklin P. Adams.

Robinson hit the mark not only on sports' questions but on poetry, music and movies. Fri. 4-25-47

A lieutenant in the infantry, he also was the only one with an answer to a question on fire-arms



JACKIE spears a high one

# On the Scoreboard

By Lester Rodney

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

DOWN ON THE field a half hour before game time the Dodgers lazily threw the ball around. The sun was bright but the air had a metallic chill more suitable for football than baseball. There weren't many people in the stands. Who comes out to Ebbets Field for a game with the Phillies on an ordinary workaday Tuesday? A few thousand night workers, milkmen, letter carriers, et al, some schoolboys playing hookey for a once a month trip to the magic of a big league game—(if I remember correctly), all manner of salesmen with brief cases and samples, semi-guiltily escaping the petty harassment of selling for a few relaxed hours (again, if I remember right, and I think I do), an increasing smattering of housewives who learned the difference between a popup and a force play from the dulcet voice of Red Barber, ten ten on your dial, and finally some of the 52-20 boys who haven't connected up with a paying job. Wed. 4-23-47

The organ booms out sweet pre-game music and handsome Hal Gregg, slated to be pitcher of the day, croons the words of the Anniversary Waltz while Stankey, next to him on the bench, shrieks **"Frankie!"** only to be coldly corrected by Gregg—**"Jolson, you ape."**

## On the House

**SUDDENLY THE WHOLE** atmosphere is transformed as 3,000 Knotholers, boys and girls, Negro and white, guests of Branch Rickey, pour happily into the upper left field stands and start whooping it up in suitably uninhibited style.

Jackie Robinson comes trotting easily to the dugout after an intensive session at the peculiarities of first base play, which he hasn't mastered as yet. Rotund Hugh Casey, a smart baseball man, had been working with him around the sack, giving him pointers. Buckhead, Georgia, is Casey's home just incidentally.

"Feeling much better," Jackie tells us. "The stomach trouble is about gone. I was really dragging out there for a while. I'm right now."

**Much of the overwhelming tension and strain of the opening days is gone. Robinson is just one of the team—though a little more than "just one of the team" with his crackling .470 batting average, tops for the Dodgers. The mad rush of photographers and autograph hunters has levelled off to normal for a big league star.**

Which is still something. As we talked a youngster leaned frantically over the railing, one eye cocked for the park cop, and yelled, **"Jackie, please sign this—it's for my club!"** Jackie hesitated— if you sign one there's a rush, but the pleading note in the kid's voice did it. He signed and hastily ducked out of sight into the dugout. And some kid's clubhouse somewhere in Brooklyn is now very proudly displaying Jackie Robinson's authentic autograph. 4-23-47

There are still a lot of "firsts" for the first Negro ballplayer in big league history. First to check into Boston's Hotel Kenmore along with the rest of the team. Sunday, first to come into the dining room there. . . . Who can estimate right now the full importance of the baseball season of 1947. . . ? Can YOU?

Casey comes in—he has a little of Fred Fitzsimmons' sweaty red faced enthusiasm for baseball. He shows me the bruise on his right arm where a line drive hit him down in Havana. "Thought I was through, but I'm tough," he chuckled. "Are you throwing hard again?" I ask. Hugh let out a peal of laughter. "Hard as I ever threw—but that ain't very hard!"

**Over on the other side the enemy in grey go through their preliminary motions. Rookie catcher Ferrell gets the sign to warm up Dutch Leonard. "Look at these fingernails," he complains, "just from catching that knuckler of his! Take Padgett over there—he won't even warm Leonard up!" Ferrell says he can never figure just what Leonard's pitches are going to do. "Does Leonard know?" I ask. "Hell, no, he throws 'em and the catcher has to figure which way the ball is going.". . . "And the batter," he adds as an afterthought.**

Daily Worker

### Tribute from a Phil

Ferrell played in the International League last season and puts in a word about Robinson. "Fine ball player, one of the best," he says. "Everybody 'round the league had the greatest respect for him. We knew he was headed for the big time after a little while. But he's up against something he hasn't seen before today. Just watch that knuckler" and away he went to warm up Leonard, shaking his head.

It was a splendid ball game, one of the old time pitchers' duels. Gregg hurling a one hitter and Leonard pitching his way out of trouble with heart, head . . . and knuckler. 1-0. Robinson, two hits, stolen base, winning run. Rookie Hermanski, an outfielder with potential who just needs to get going and loosen up, drives the run across, and Peewee Reese, now the game's greatest shortstop, flashes over second to make a great play to end the game in the 9th with a Philly racing home from 3rd.

On the elevator going down from the pressroom a scribe needles Branch Rickey. "Branch," he says, "Ben Chapman (Philly manager) says you have inflated prices on your extra ball players."

**"Well,"** says Rickey, **"then they just shouldn't buy any. That's the way to handle inflated prices. Don't buy the merchandise!"**

That ended that.

And out in the street the fans talking about the game in the intimate way of Brooklyn crowds, and bumping into James Ford, Negro Communist leader and an ex athlete in his own right.

**"I'm going to have a hard time keeping away from this park,"** he smiles. New York, N.Y.

It's a very pleasant afternoon at Ebbets Field, 1947. 4-23-47

# Gregg's 1-Hitter Stops Phils, 1-0

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Wed. 4-23-47

## Reese Stars Afield, Robby Scores Game Winning Tally

By Bill Mardo

The Philadelphia Story became the Flatbush Fantasy yesterday, as 9,790 shivering fans rubbed their eyes in glorious disbelief while last year's sorearm problem, Hal Gregg, came back with a breathtaking one-hit, 1-0 win over the Phils.

Del Ennis' double down the left-field line in the first inning was the first and last hit off Handsome Hal. For the next eight and one-third innings he was pure perfection, getting the improved Bluejays on weak grounders or puny popups. And Gregg's great return to form couldn't have come at a better time, because old Dutch Leonard was in fine fettle himself, twirling hitless ball the first three innings, and cannily pitching his way out of jam after jam from the fifth on.

**But the former Nat, knuckleballer lost his touch briefly in the eighth and that's all the Dodgers needed. Jackie Robinson led off with a Texas League single, his second hit of the day in four trips. And then Robby got hot! He stole second as Reiser fanned and when Seminick's attempt to nip Jackie went wild into centerfield, the fleetfooted Robinson legged it to third. Dixie Walker walked and that brought Gene Hermanski to the plate. Hitless in three previous tries, the blonde outfield candidate came through with a solid single into center as Robinson scored the game winning run. The Brooks had a chance to give Gregg a more comfortable lead when Bruce Edwards followed with a single into short right to load the bases with only one out. But Leonard bore down to fan Jorgensen and Reese.**

But the fighting Phils came right back to give the Dodgers a real scare in the ninth. With two gone, culprit Del Ennis drew a walk. Ron Northey stepped in and smacked what should've been a game-ending grounder to Robinson. The ball whistled through Jackie's hands for his first big league error, and Ennis scooted to third on the miscue. Peewee Reese then saved the day with one of those surehanded bits of brilliance which mark him the greatest shortstop in the game today. Big Nick Etten, pinch-hitting for Tabor, whacked a seemingly sure hit past second—but Reese tore to his left, came up with it, and in the same motion flipped the ball to Stanky for the force on Northey. N.Y.

The Dodgers' lone tally came after they had flushes in the two previous innings. They had the bases loaded with none out in the sixth on singles by Stanky and Robinson, plus Reiser's walk—but ol' Dutch got Walker on a weak dribbler to the mound which was converted into a forceout on Stanky at the plate. Hermanski lifted one to Northey who promptly heaved a stunning strike to nip Robinson trying to score after the catch. Daily Worker

While Robinson's error had put Gregg in a jam, the righthander also gave Robby a thankful pat on the back for his sensational play in the eighth which got Grett OUT of a potential hole. That was when with one out, Hal hit Seminick with an inside pitch. Verban then lashed a redhot grounder wide of first wide of first base, earmarked as a sure hit. Only Robinson dived to his right with the crack of the bat, stopped the sizzler and tore back to first in time to catch Verban.

**Robinson's two hits gave him a .470 average which leads the Brooklyn batsmen.**

# Robinson, Philley Pace '47 Rookies

The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.

## Brown, Berra, Jarvis, Dorish Also Live Up to Spring Notices

Tues. 4-22-47

New York, April 21 (AP)—One short week after openin day the new crop of major league rookies is headed by Dav Philley of the Chicago White Sox and Jackie Robinson o the Brooklyn Dodgers.

Philley, not exactly a green pea freshman because he was with the Sox until May last year, has appeared in only two games so his .461 batting average can be taken with a gob of salt. However, the husky outfielder from Paris, Tex., has shown enough power to merit a second look.

Assigned to the center field job by Manager Ted Lyons on opening day, Philley, who batted .329 for Milwaukee last summer, has socked two triples and a double in his six blows and has stolen one base. The Courier-Journal

**PRESSURE**

Robinson, the highly publicized first Negro to play modern big league ball, started slowly under heavy pressure. He finally resorted to his old International League technique to beat out a bunt for his first big time single after going 0 for 5 up to that time.

Once Jackie started to swing without restraint he began to connect more solidly. They say he has no power but the 90,000 fans who watched the two-day series between the Dodgers and New York Giants in the Polo Grounds are not convinced. After hitting a home run off Dave Koslo and following through with a single, he banged out two doubles and a single off Monty Kennedy and Bill Voiselle Saturday.

**ERROR**

As of now, Robinson's average is a lofty .429. So far he has been

looking at Boston and New York pitching but the big test is not far away as the western teams

Tues 4-22-47

**Dave Philley**

**Star White Sox rookie.**

swing into Ebbets Field a week from tomorrow.

Leroy Jarvis, a 20-year-old catcher who slipped out of Branch Rickey's hands by a front office error, has lost little time taking advantage of Clyde Kluttz' absence through injury to nail down the No. 1 backstop job with Pittsburgh. Louisville, Ky.

Believed at least "a year away" Jarvis stepped into Kluttz' shoes and caught all but one of the Pirates' first six games, hitting .353. He has shown some power, too, hitting a homer and double.

Bobby "Golden Boy" Brown of the New York Yankees, who drew an estimated $50,000 bonus check from Larry MacPhail a year ago, didn't start the season but was used the next day. If he can continue his current .333 level, he'll be hard to get out of the lineup.

**NOTICES**

Larry "Yogi" Berra, another Yank recruit, is hitting .320 and beginning to spray some extra base blows around the outfields. A converted catcher, the Yogi has been living up to all his spring notices. Tues.

Lloyd Gearheart, who shares the Giants' center field job with Al White in the absence of Whitey Lockman, has averaged an even .300 but Clint Hartung has been falling short of advance notices with a .200 mark. 4-22-47

In the pitching department, Don Johnson, who edged Phil Marchildon yesterday in a 10-inning battle, has turned in the standout first-year job. Kent Peterson of Cincinnati, worked a brilliant three-hit relief job and pitched a good game against Chicago today. Fritz Dorish of the Red Sox looked good in two bullpen wins but Eddie Erautt of Cincy and Bill Ayers of the Giants each failed twice. Mel Parnell of the Red Sox and Joe Coleman of the A's pitched good ball but lost their initial efforts.

Wed 4-23-47 New York N.Y.

**A DIVING TAG** by Phil Catcher Andy Seminick and Dodger Jackie Robinson was out at home in the sixth inning of the Dodger-Phil game at Ebbets Field yesterday. A great throw by **Ron** Northey nipped Jackie. Dodgers won, 1-0.

## The 'Daily' Roundup:

# Jackie Opens Today;

Jackie Robinson and the Montreal Royals open an exhibition series against the Cuban clubs in Havana today, and indications are the ballpark will be jammed to the hilt for Robbie's initial bow of '47.

Daily Worker

The Negro star's tremendous gate appeal will also be a boon to those sagging attendance figures for the Dodger-Braves exhibition series over the past weekend, which drew 5,000 for the two games.

New York, N.Y.

For Jackie, today's opener is the first game and the first step in the spring training schedule which doesn't call for his big tests against the Dodgers until March 28, when the parent team will have returned from Panama for its series with the International League champs

Tues. 3-4-47

# BROOKLYN DEFEATS LEONARD IN 8TH, 1-0

New York Times

### Robinson Gets Second Single and Scores on Hermanski's

### Line Hit to Center

Wed 4-23-47

### GREGG RETIRES 20 IN ROW

New York, N.Y.

### Dodger Hurler Gains Command After Ennis Doubles With 2 Out in Phils' First

**By ROSCOE McGOWEN**

There was no faint resemblance between Hal Gregg and the weather at Ebbets Field yesterday as the tall young Californian held the Phils to one hit and pitched the Dodgers to a 1-0 triumph—not to mention hurling them into second place in the National League.

Gregg was definitely hot, retiring twenty batsmen in a row from the third out in the first inning until he hit Andy Seminick with a pitch when one was out in the eighth. Even the 45-degree temperature, which had 9,790 fans shivering, wasn't enough to cool their enthusiasm for a remarkably pitched and, in some instances, brilliantly played game.

The Brooks won it from Emil (Dutch) Leonard in the eighth inning, with Jackie Robinson scampering home on a hit by Gene Hermanski. Although the box score shows nine hits off the veteran knuckleballer, the Dodgers made not more than four clean ones.

Robinson's first hit in the sixth was a slashing single through the left side, but his blow in the eighth that led to the victory was a pop fly that fell on the skinned part of the diamond back of second base between Emil Verban and Skeeter Newsome.

With Pistol Pete Reiser at bat Robinson took off for second base as Pete struck out, the ball getting away from Andy Seminick. When Seminick recovered the pellet he threw into center field, putting the Negro speedster on third base. Wed 4-23-47

**Wyrostek Makes Game Try**

Dixie Walker, cheered mightily, drew a walk. Then Hermanski was in the hole with two foul strikes and no balls, but when the count finally reached three and two Gene slapped one on a high line toward center field. It appeared Eddie Wyrostek might make the catch and Robinson had to hold, but the wind held the ball and it dropped just under Wyrostek's hands for a single to score Jackie.

The bases were filled when Bruce Edwards dropped a fly ball single into right that Ron Northey just failed to catch. Then Leonard fanned both Johnny Jorgensen and Peewee Reese to send Gregg into the final frame with his slender margin.

Hal retired Charley Gilbert, batting for Newsome, and Wyrostek on fly balls to Hermanski and Reiser. However, he walked Del Ennis, who had doubled inside the left-field line in the opening frame.

Disaster threatened as Robinson let a hot shot from Northey's bat go through him for an error. Ennis reached third, the first time any Phil arrived at that station, on the error. New York Times

Then Reese, who already had made two sparkling plays, topped all previous performances on a ball hit by Nick Etten, who batted for Jim Tabor. Going far behind second base the little colonel snared what seemed a certain game-tying base hit, tossed the ball to Eddie Stanky, and the game ended.

Robby, deeply chagrined because his error had put Gregg and his team in the jam, ran twenty feet across the diamond to congratulate Reese on his game-saving play. In the clubhouse, Gregg called it "the greatest play I ever saw."

Wed 4-23-47

**Robby Uses Good Judgment**

Robinson made a great play in the eighth after Gregg had hit Seminick. When Verban slashed what normally would have been a hit toward the right side, Jackie snared the ball with a backhand stab, then had the presence of mind to make the run for first base instead of trying for an improbable force-out at second.

New York, N.Y.

Leonard has not trod the ground at Ebbets Field for eleven years. Originally a Dodger rookie when Casey Stengel piloted the Brooks, Dutch appeared in sixteen games in 1936, then was sent to Atlanta of the Southern Association.

Gregg said Ennis hit "a bad pitch, a change of pace inside. It was a strike but a bad pitch." Two years ago Gregg pitched one-hitters against Boston and Philadelphia.

Wed 4-23-47

It was so cold that Philly bullpen tenants ran out on the field between innings, beginning with the end of the sixth, in order to bask in the sunshine for a few brief moments.

Robinson's eighth-inning misplay was his first in forty-seven chances as a major leaguer. . . . Reese's hitting doesn't compare with his fielding thus far. Peewee has one hit in sixteen appearances for an average of 0.62. . . . Paid attendance was 6,790, balance were boys.

The box score:

**PHILADELPHIA (N.)**

| | ab. | r. | h. | po. | a. | e. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| [illegible] | | | | | | |
| Total | 29 | 0 | 1 | 24 | 6 | 2 |

aFlied out for Newsome in ninth.
bFlied out for Tabor in ninth.

**BROOKLYN (N.)**

| | ab. | r. | h. | po. | a. | e. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stanky, 2b. | 4 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 0 |
| Rob'son, 1b. | 4 | 1 | 2 | 12 | 0 | 1 |
| Reiser, cf. | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Walker, rf. | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Herm'ski, lf. | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Edwards, c. | 4 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Jorg'sen, 3b. | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Reese, ss. | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 0 |
| Gregg, p. | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Total | 32 | 1 | 9 | 27 | 11 | 1 |

Philadelphia .......... 000 000 000—0
Brooklyn .......... 000 000 01.—1

Run batted in—Hermanski.
Two-base hit—Ennis. Stolen base—Robinson. Double play—Northey and Seminick. Left on bases—Philadelphia 5, Brooklyn 10. Bases on balls—Off Gregg 2, Leonard 3. Struck out—By Gregg 4, Leonard 4. Hit by pitcher—By Gregg (Seminick). Umpires—Stewart, Jorda, Henline and Magerkurth. Time of game—2:01. Attendance—9,790.

# SPORTS

## In this corner

Daily Worker Fri. 4-11-47 New York, N.Y.

### 'Robinson's a Dodger,' The Guy Said

By Bill Mardo

IT WAS 3:13 on the big scoreboard clock at Ebbets Field. Montreal was coming to bat in the top of the sixth and I had just spilled a container of coffee across my typewriter. Les Rodney, seated alongside me, mumbled something that vaguely sounded like "sloppy" and I was ready to rub his nose into my wet copypaper when one of the scribes walked behind our chairs, tapped me on the shoulder and said simply: **"Robinson's a Dodger."** The words hung like that in mid-air. And then that mad dash to the other end of the press coop where someone was handing out small slips of paper which bore a single sentence: **"The Brooklyn Dodgers today purchased the contract of Jackie Roosevelt Robinson from the Montreal Royals. Signed—Branch Rickey."**

•

What's there to say? Good people everywhere fight and fight and fight for a bit of progress, then they win, and all of a sudden the words are stuck in your throat. You feel elated in a strangely quiet way. You sit down at your typewriter and if words don't come at least the thoughts are there. In that funny, relaxed way.

•

**You think of a sweet guy out in California. And if he's had a rough time with his health the past two years you know that nothing, absolutely nothing, will bring him along quicker than news of his friend who has just become a Dodger. Yes, Nat Low must be awfully happy today.**

•

You think of Branch Rickey, a man whose many-sided personality is one of the most unique things in sports. A practical business man with a knowledge of baseball that nobody else can match. A man who, once convinced that Negroes in big league baseball was some day inevitable, yielded to the popular demands of Brooklyn fans, and, once he took the plunge, never faltered again.

**He has earned the respect of decent citizens everywhere who want to know not of a man's color but of his ability and his fundamental rights as a human being.**

•

**OH, THERE'S** so much you think of on a day like this. Your mind flits back to the day you first met Jackie Robinson and the pretty little girl who was soon to become his wife. And you remember Jackie's words just 48 hours after he'd been signed to a Montreal contract. "I only hope that some day I can do some of the same good that Joe Louis has." And the pretty, quiet girl looked on with shining eyes. Fri. 4-11-47

And a half-year later . . . on a neat, sunbaked ballfield in Sanford, Florida, you and many other writers swarm around a Negro infielder as he comes out in Montreal uniform for the first time. The pleasant ease with which he handles himself, despite the terrific pressure which must feel like an anchor around his neck.

**You remember him stepping into the batting cage, all eyes on him, the sure swing of his bat and one thing you'll never forget. How on the third pitch he gave the ball a long, solid ride into the outfield . . . and the cow who continued to serenely chew the short grass even though a round baseball missed her head by inches.**

•

**YOU REMEMBER** an almost unbelievably perfect day, that Opening Day last year for the International League and again the pressure hanging on one athlete down there on the ballfield. And as he hits first a homerun, and then a single, and then a double, and steals base after base, and performs brilliantly everywhere, a good-meaning writer next to you says: "My God, Abe Lincoln musta' wrote the script today!"

And, if he did, Jackie Robinson was certainly dotting the i's.

•

### AND YESTERDAY . . .

"I GOT bugs in my stomach," Jackie grinned. It was practice session 20 minutes before game time and the stocky star was having his first look at Ebbets Field. He already knew from a brief conversation with Branch Rickey earlier that he was going to be brought up to the Dodgers—but he didn't know it would be later that same day. Yes, he was as tight as a drum, plainly nervouse. He'd been sick, and he kinda hoped it wouldn't stop him from having a good day for all the kids who were cheering his every move out there in practice. Daily Worker

**Nearby, with a big No. 9 on the back of his shirt, was another Negro player who's destined to become a Dodger some day. Roy Campanella. A squat, powerful fellow with a quiet grin, he also drew an ovation as he stepped into the batting cage and rammed a couple of savage smashes up against the left-field wall.** 4-11-47

The crowd whistled. . . . Roy finished batting . . . and allowed as how he felt "just fine." You can bet your bottom boot he'll be a Dodger, this brilliant catcher with the loud-barking bat. Fri.

•

**SO THESE** are some of the things you think about as you try and relax over the news of Jackie Robinson. Simple, mostly pleasant things. There's time tomorrow to answer some of the foolishness that I suppose will be uttered in the usual corners.

**There's time tomorrow to remember that the good fight goes on. But, for today, let's just sit back and feel easy and warm. As that fellow in the pressbox said: "Robinson's a Dodger—and it's a great day, isn't it?** New York, N.Y. 4-11-47

## On the Scoreboard

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Tues. 4-15-47

By Lester Rodney

### About Jackie and the Cheers

Here it is Opening Day if it doesn't rain and time for a traditional column on same.

But it's hard this opening day to write straight baseball and not stop to mention the wonderful fact of Jackie Robinson. You tell yourself it shouldn't BE especially wonderful in America, no more wonderful for instance than Negro soldiers being with us on the way overseas through submarine infested waters in 1943. And that never appeared "wonderful," just sensible, necessary and right.

It's quite possible to be stupid about something like this. After chatting with Jackie on the field the first day he was in a Dodger uniform and becoming overwhelmed with the feeling of pressure and tension thrown willy nilly upon his broad shoulders by the spotlight of publicity, the scrambling photographers oblivious of all else, even the kids rushing for autographs at his every move, it took no remarkable perception to know that beneath Jackie's smile was at least a little wish to be let alone and treated just like any other rookie, on his merit. And I decided then and there to start writing less about him in my Brooklyn stories.

But that didn't seem quite right. It didn't square with the inescapable feeling that the readers WANTED to know about him. A conflict.

Then up in the press box Saturday, his second day in uniform, when the special warm applause continued to roll down from the Ebbets Field stands every time he went to bat though he had been doing nothing spectacular, another writer sitting near me, a right enough guy, said, **"I wish they would stop that already and just treat him as another ball player."** I suddenly knew he was wrong. The conflict evaporated.

**For like it or not, Jackie Robinson was not "just another ball player" down there. Not yet! The continuing cheers from the 25,000 strong cross-section crowd was actually expressing America's great inherent sense of sportsmanship, equality and Bill of Rights democracy if you will, was insisting on expressing it fully when given the dramatic concentrated chance to do so.**

The repetition and re-emphasis that worried my well meaning friend carried with it the awareness that Negro Americans hadn't been allowed to play down there before, that everything WASN'T smooth and equal for either the Negro people or yet Jackie Robinson. Consciously or not it carried assurance and congratulations to Branch Rickey, it carried an answer to Bilbo and Rankin and their northern counterparts, it carried decent human feeling down to Robinson on the field and a message to every magnate in the big leagues.

In the surprising—yes surprising to me too—depths of the cheers for Robinson was the real democracy of the vast majority of our people, a democracy sometimes blurred, stultified, confused, rationalized and diverted but still in there waiting for a chance to come through.

**And here it was!** Daily Worker

You can't ask people to measure, to control their democracy. Cheer on for a while, you people of Brooklyn! Cheer on, democracy!

**And when the Dodgers go to Boston and Philadelphia and Cincinnati and Chicago and Pittsburgh and St. Louis there'll be special cheers when Jackie Robinson steps out of the visiting dugout.**

And maybe we were wrong about Jackie's own feelings. The cheers and commotion add to the pressure he's under, sure, but he knew what he was doing when he started fighting for a big league job, when he became the first, the forerunner, knowing he had to be better than just good enough. New York, N.Y.

The cheers may make it a little tougher on Robinson, the athlete, in a way. But the cheers are saying something, something that will make it easier for Negro players to come, for the day when there'll be no special pressure upon an American ballplayer whose skin happens to be dark. Tues. 4-15-47

I guess Jackie must know that.

## Jackie Robinson

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Achivement is not a matter of race and color. It is a matter of enviroment and opportunity. Human beings grow

and develop much alike, both modern science and Christianity affirm this biological truth. But if a Negro turns out to be a bad actor; if he postles a white passenger in his haste to secure a seat, or if he commits some outrageous crime, almost always, American prejudice charges it up to race.

*Wednesday 4-16-47*

That is why Negro Americans may take pardonable pride in the worthwhile achievements of their people, whether in the field or sports, in the arts and sciences, in business of the professions. They have got to make the grade, or else it is going to be written off as a racial and color weakness.

In his exploits last week with the Brooklyn Dodgers at their exhibition game, Jackie Robinson has achieved notably, not alone for himself but for his race, although he has expressed the hope that he be judged only as an individual. So logical and forceful is his position that it is well worth repeating here: "I wish to be judged only as a ballplayer, and as such, I desire that fans of my own racial group will regard me only as one of the players."

Robinson, according to news accounts, led the International League, which is owned by the Dodgers, in hitting, in base-stealing, in runs scored, and in second base play. His elevation to the major league club, declared one commentator, should have been automatic. But the color line has always been drawn in modern baseball. And it is altogether likely that even today, no major league owner would have had the courage to attempt removal of the color barrier, except for the bold stroke by Branch Rickey, the Brooklyn President, who signed Robinson for a contract. For that we can all be grateful.

On the other hand America can gain another important lesson. That the names of Jackie Robinson, Joe Louis, George Washington Carver and hundreds upon hundreds of others, didn't just happen; that in spite of the barriers of race and color, distinguished achievement, industry and manliness are traits which must eventually be recognized under any skin.

# Is End of Big League Jimcrow in Sight?

*The Worker Sun. 4-13-47*
*New York, N.Y.*

With the Dodgers' experiment of training under three flags at an end, the final chapter in the rise of the first Negro player from Jimcrow baseball to the Big Leagues was being written at Ebbets Field as we went to press. There Jackie Robinson played first base for the Montreal Royals as New York fans saw him for the first time on a major league diamond. *4-13-47*

**As this edition went to press, Jackie Robinson was signed to play with the Brooklyn Dodgers.**

Jackie's five-week training period, which began on March 1, was a mixture of triumph and disappointment. In Panama and in early games at Havana again such pitchers as Hal Gregg and Kirby Higbe, he batted approximately .400 . . . no one kept accurate averages. His troubles began when he developed a sore back March 26 and continued as he suffered at attack of colitis, a recurrence of an ailment which had troubled him at UCLA.

Weakened physically, he went into a batting slump, his average dropping during the final Cuban week. Last Saturday he shot a hard single to center in early innings, but was forced to quit the game when he was shaken up in a collision with Bruce Edwards at first base. Jackie rose high in the air to catch a throw from the Royals' second baseman, then fell heavily as Edwards slid back into the base.

★

**DURING THE** last week, Jackie, on Branch Rickey's orders was at first on all but one day. The reason, as explained by Rickey, is that every one knows what he can do at second and as the Dodgers are notoriously weak at first, his assignment was not so much for the purpose of trying him there, but to give him experience.

Unquestionably at this time, he is a better second baseman than first baseman, as might be expected, for he has played less than 20 games at the initial sack. But he had played no games at second when transferred there last season and, although he is slightly handicapped by the fact that he throws right-handed, everyone believes he can fill the new position satisfactorily.

Whether he will open the season for the Dodgers there has not yet been decided, but, unless all signs fail, he will be in a Dodger uniform in time for opening day next Tuesday. *Sun. 4-13-47*

★

**THE DODGERS** return from the South in excellent condition, but with many questions unanswered. Will Pete Reiser throw and hit as in the past? He hasn't thus far. Will Dixie Walker regains enough speed and skill to hold his job against the threat by young Duke Snider? Will Arkie Vaughan's legs hold out at third? And who will play first? *Daily Worker*

Finally, are the Dodgers, who have played a few games with major league teams, keyed up for the league race? *N.Y.*

Whether the veterans are ready or not, the youngsters are. The Dodgers possess a phenomenal crop of rookies, blessed as they are with such budding stars of the future as Eddie Kiksis, Babe Hermanski, Gil Hodges, Harry Taylor, John Van Cuyk, Stan Rojek, Tom Tatum and Jackie Robinson—enough talent to lick the Giants two out of three games in the course of the season by sheer speed alone. *Sun.*

And so, with the training season coming to an end, one safe prediction may be made—this will be an interesting season at old Ebbets Field—and, with the beginning of the end of major league Jimcrow in sight, a significant one. *4-13-47*

# Tom Meany:

*PM New York, N.Y.*

## Dodger Opening Day Strangely Hushed

*Wed. 4-16-47*

With Leo Durocher and Happy Chandler, the two refugees from vaudeville, many miles away, the baseball season opened at Ebbets Field yesterday on a peaceful note. As a matter of fact, it was so downright peaceful it was practically solemn. A stranger could have been excused if he harbored the impression that he had wandered into a particularly decorous funeral parlor by mistake.

Clyde Sukeforth, the pro tem manager, can quit today, if he so wishes, with a record which entitles him to be whisked right to Cooperstown. He has an average of 1.000. And it was no easy ride for Sukie, either, because Joe Hatten, the starter, was shy on control and Clyde had to throw three pitchers in against the Braves before it was over. It was Hughie Casey, the Flatbush Ave. boniface, who finally shut the door on the visitors in the ninth.

Although that celebrated Flatbush flora, the rhubarb, was conspicuous by its absence, the Flatbush fauna were out in force, but strangely subdued. A few of the "cookie" balloons wafted skyward in the closing innings and Shortie's band tootled a few tunes, but otherwise all was quiet.

The pre-game ceremonies were restrained. Smiling John Cashmore, the perennial Borough President, threw out the first ball, an honor which in Brooklyn is restricted to Democratic leaders only. No others need apply. And Everett McCooey, the perennial baritone, delivered the national anthem with elan, eclat, and elegance. The only note of immoderation was supplied by Tex Rickard, the announcer, who introduced everybody as "Brooklyn's beloved, etc."

...a move which was accepted as natural by the crowd and caused no lifted eyebrows. It is pleasant to report that Robbie, who has played only five games in Ebbets Field, is being accepted at the evaluation he himself seeks, that of a ball player.

The suspicion that the Dodgers will go exactly as Reiser goes was borne out by yesterday's events. Pistola belted two hits, scored three runs, and knocked in the other two, thus having a finger in all tallies as the Dodgers staggered to a 5-3 victory. *PM N.Y.*

Gene Hermanski, a great natural hitter, who couldn't untrack himself last year, supplied a rolling block in the fourth, which upset Connie Ryan, prevented a double play, and allowed Reiser to score Brooklyn's first run. This was the only hint of physical violence during the afternoon and it was applauded by the more bloodthirsty.

Brooklyn unveiled a new third baseman, one Jug Jorgenson, who as recently as Monday had been the property of Montreal. He gave Ryan, the Braves second baseman, a busy afternoon with three straight rollers. *Wed. 4-16-47*

It was a quiet opening, so quiet you could hear a suspension drop.

***Robinson Replaced In 9th by Schultz***

Jackie Robinson, making his debut as the first Negro in modern major league history, played first base for the Dodgers and did nothing to bring either praise or condemnation. He handled himself adequately around first base, but got the ball out of the infield only once. He laid down a neat sacrifice in the seventh, which Torgeson misplayed to set the stage for Pete Reiser's game-winning double against the right field wall.

In the ninth, Sukeforth removed Robinson to allow the more experienced Howie Schultz to play first

Sumter, S. C. Daily Item
April 9, 1947

# Brooklyn Fans Get Look at Robinson

Brooklyn, April 9—(AP)—Brooklyn fans may get their first glimpse of Jackie Robinson, the negro sensation, in action today as the Dodgers begin a two-game series with their Montreal farmhands at Ebbets Field.

It is believed that this two-game set, more than anything else, will determine whether the former UCLA all-around athlete will open the championship na-

...tional league campaign wearing a Dodger uniform or remain with the Royals.

President Branch Rickey and manager Leo Durocher of the Dodgers remain mum on the matter, but it is virtually certain that the answer to one of the most important questions of the spring training period will be assured before the regular season gets under way next Tuesday.

# Yanks Rally for 4 In 9th To Edge Brooklyn By 10-9

*The Courier-Journal Louisville Ky.*

Brooklyn, April 13 (AP)—Bill Johnson's double with the bases loaded capped a four-run rally by the New York Yankees in the ninth inning today as they edged the Brooklyn Dodgers 10-9 before a near capacity crowd of 30,847. All four runs were scored after two men were out. *Mon.*

By the victory, the Yanks captured the spring series, which started in Venezuela and was continued at Havana and Ebbets Field, by 5-3. *4-14-47*

Jackie Robinson, moved up to the No. 2 spot in the order, played the entire game at first base. He singled the first time up and later walked with the bases loaded.

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| New York (A) | 005 001 004 | — | 10 | 12 | 1 |
| Brooklyn (N) | 002 100 330 | — | 9 | 10 | 0 |

D. Johnson, Ardizoia (3), Byrne (3), Gumpert (9) and Houck, Robinson (6); Lombardi, Taylor (3), Barney (8), King (9) and Edwards. *4-14-47*

**YOU CAN thank Jimcrow for Jackie Robinson's troubles today. The great Negro star is being plagued with severe colitis attacks during his Dodger tryouts. Jackie wouldn't be such a sick athlete if it wasn't for the ridiculous color ban which prevents him from living with the rest of the Royals in the lavish Military Academy 15 miles out of Havana proper. Robinson has to, instead, live in a dingy downtown rooming house and eat in a nearby bistro where the food is strange to him, cheap, and poorly prepared. That's what accounts for his sudden intestinal disorder. And the pains are so sharp that Jackie has been unable to show his real stuff in his two most recent tests against the Dodgers. Both games saw him leave after the seventh inning—and in the first tilt Jackie booted two throws which he couldn't bend over for.** *3-31-47*

Jackie shouldn't be in the lineup at all with his stomach trouble. **"I can't bend or jump properly because of pains in my back, but that's better than not playing at all. If I stayed out, people might think I was quitting."** *Daily Worker N.Y., N.Y.*

Nobody would think any such thing of Jackie Robinson, and right now his fans the world over are hoping his condition clears up in time for the next six Dodger-Montreal exhibitions. There's much at stake. And if it should happen to take longer, Jackie still deserves that Dodger promotion. His record as the finest player in the International League warrants that—and besides, Branch Rickey knows the kind of ball Robinson is capable of when he's a well man. He showed that in the first Dodger tryout at Panama, when he got three for three and made some sensational saves around that first bag.

# Looks Like Jackie Robinson At 1st Base for Dodgers

*The Worker New York, N.Y.*

*Sun. 3-23-47*

"Stanky, 2d base. . . ."

**"Robinson, 1st base. . . ."**

That's what Flatbush fans will hear over the loudspeaker system at Ebbets Field come glorious Opening Day.

**Jackie Robinson at first base. Such is the hopeful story, friends, after the great Negro star's first week of tryouts against the Dodgers down in Balboa. Rave notices have greeted Jackie's finesse around the initial sack, despite the fact he never played that position before. But when the Dodger moguls decided that second base, shortstop, and third was set with Stanky, Reese and Arky Vaughan, there was only one out left so far as getting Robinson onto the parent team this season. That was to test him at first base, where the light-hitting Messrs. Stevens and Schultz haven't had much success in seasons past.** *The Worker*

So last week Robinson got the word to move over to that first stop on the infield route. Much to everyone's amazement he handled the new berth as if he'd been born for it. And by way of trying to clinch his job at first, Robbie went on a wild batting rampage. The man who hit .341 at Montreal last year to top the International League batsmen, began to shoot for the fences. In his first outing against a Havana club, Jackie whacked out a homerun, single and triple. The Royals then moved on to Balboa, and next day Jackie again unloaded a circuit clout and a sharp single. His play around first base was marked with lightning-quick smoothness. *New York, N.Y.*

Came his first big test in the 11-game tryouts against the Dodgers. Not only did Jackie handle 13 chances flawlessly and make one impossible catch of a wild throw from second base—but he also collected two long singles off the big league slants of Dodger ace Hal Gregg and scored the tying run which deadlocked the Dodger-Montreal exhibition.

Brooklyn coach Jake Pitler is raving about Robinson.

Dodger manager Leo Durocher has gone on record: **"If Jackie makes it he will bat in the No. 2 slot with Vaughan moving down to fifth."** *Sun. 3-23-47*

That's it. The first Negro in major league baseball? But not the last. How about it fans? Let's go to town and start a fire under the reactionary moguls at the Yankee, Giant, Detroit and Chicago front-Giant, Detroit and Chicago xz offices. The democratic-minded fans of America want to see the infamous Jimcrow ban ended not alone on the Dodgers—but all those other clubs who could use Negro stars.

**Write, Wire, Visit your local clubowner. Let's make 1947 the year when baseball became our "National" pastime in fact and not name alone. Let's Go!**

# Tom Meany:

*PM New York, N.Y.*

## Robbie Must Hit To Keep His Job

*Sun. 4-13-47*

A Negro played in the lineup of one major league club against another major league club in a major league ball park Friday afternoon. It was only an exhibition game but even so, it marked the first time baseball's color line had been crossed. It seemed safe to predict that it will not be the last and that professional baseball, like boxing, basketball, track and football, will forget about Jim Crow.

About the only remarkable thing about the game itself was the crowd, which numbered 24,237 paying clients. How many of these were drawn to Ebbets Field by the novelty of seeing a Negro, Jackie Robinson, in a Dodger uniform it is difficult to estimate, but there didn't seem to be a proportionately as high a representation of Robinson's race as was observed the day before whe Robbie was playing with Montreal against the Dodgers.

Robinson went hitless but met the ball cleanly and was credited with batting in three runs against assorted, and not very effective, Yankee pitching. At first base, a position he has been playing only for the last fortnight, he handled himself well.

***Robbie Put Out Twice in Inning***

The most encouraging feature of the ball game, which developed into something of a shambles when the Dodgers picked up 11 runs in the fifth, an inning which saw Robbie make two of the three outs, was the attitude of the fans. Unlike Robbie's first appearance at Ebbets Field, when he was cheered far in excess of anything his peformance called for, Jackie on Friday drew no special salvos of applause.

Robinson was cheered on each appearance at the plate, of course, but it was no more than the recognition given any rookie coming up who has received considerable publicity because his color made his case somewhat unusual. *4-13-47*

More gratifying than the acceptance of Robinson was the absence of the ugly booing directed at Dixie Walker on Thursday. Presumably Dixie was the target of this vocal abuse because he was a Southerner and was erroneously believed to have declared he wouldn't play on the same team with Robinson.

Whether Robinson can play first base for the Dodgers is a moot question and one which has nothing to do with his race. The position is strange to him and Brooklyn has two experienced first sackers on its roster, Ed Stevens and Howie Schultz. Robbie will have to hit to play first base. He hasn't made a hit in either of his first two Ebbets Field appearances, but his International League record and his background encourage the belief that he will hit satisfactorily.

***Cinch to Open Season at First***

*New York, N.Y. Sun. 4-13-47*

The decision to play Robinson regularly will be shaped by Robinson himself. The still-to-be-named permanent Brooklyn manager will make that decision and will make it on the basis of what Robbie does. Right now, he seems a cinch to open the season at Ebbets Field against the Braves on Tuesday.

There still has been no hint of the successor to the grounded Leo Durocher. Whoever the choice is, he will have a rough row; not so much because of what the Brooklyn fans consider Leo's martyrdom, but because those St. Louis Cardinals are going to be awfully tough to shave. *Sun. 4-13-47*

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# Jackie To Make Brooklyn Debut

*The News Birmingham, Ala.*

*Wed. 4-9-47*

By JOE REICHLER

BROOKLYN, April 9—(AP)—Brooklyn fans may get their first glimpse of Jackie Robinson, the Negro sensation, in action today as the Dodgers begin a two-game series with their Montreal farmhands at Ebbets Field.

It is believed that this two-game set, more than anything else, will determine whether the former U. C. L. A. all-around athlete will open the championship National League campaign wearing a Dodger uniform or remain with the Royals.

President Branch Rickey and Manager Leo Durocher of the Dodgers remain mum on the matter, but it is virtually certain that the answer to one of the most important questoins of the Spring training period will be answered before the regular season gets under way next Tuesday.

Rickey's Winter statement to the effect that a decision on Robinson would be reached "on or before the opening day of the 1947 season" is still fresh in the minds of the fans

Thus far the play of the California flash who led the International League in batting last year has been brilliant. Called upon to play a strange position at first base in addition to his regular berth at second, Robby has exceeded the best wishes of his admirers. Against Dodger pitching he batted close to .400. In the field he handled himself expertly, causing more than one expert to remark that he was the best first baseman in either the Dodgers' or Royals' camp.

Scribes covering the Dodgers believe that Robinson will be brought up within the next few days and may open the season as the regular first baseman. They point out the Negro star has no chance to oust veteran Eddie Stanky at second base or dislodge the brilliant Pee Wee Reese at shortstop. They reason that Rickey by requesting Montreal Manager Clay Hopper to use Robinson at first base, where the Dodgers are comparatively weak, tipped his hand. *News*

If Robby is brought up, he will join Moses Fleetwood Walker as the only Negroes ever to play in the major leagues. Walker, who, like Robinson, was a college graduate, played with Toledo in the American Association in 1884. He joined the Ohioans after graduating from the University of Michigan. *Wed. 4-9-47*

The American Association at the time was a rival of the National League just as the American League is today. Walker, a catcher, remained only one year in the

# Oh Yes, the Royals Beat Brooklyn, 4-3

*Daily Worker*
*New York, N.Y.*

A ball game was played at Ebbets Field yesterday but the score was unimportant. All eyes were focused on Jackie Robinson, Montreal first baseman, who began the game as minor leaguer and ended it in the majors. *Fri. 4-11-47*

Before the pastime began, Jackie confided that he was nervous about his first appearance in the major league park, but although he did not have one of his good days at bat, his first base play was flawless and he had the distinction of scoring the first run of the game in the fourth. First up in that inning, he worked Ralph Branca for a pass, then jogged around the bases on Lund's homer into the left field stands. On three other occasions he went hitless, popping a foul on an attempt to bunt in the fifth with two men on bases which was converted into a double play.

Cold weather affected Branca, who yielded four runs on two walks and two circuit clouts. Duke Snider's triple with Walker on base accounted for the first two Dodger runs in fourth Hermanski's double sent Rojek home in the seventh. A Dodger rally was suppressed in the eighth when Stanky hit into a double play with the bases full, tapping to pitcher Banta whose toss to Roy Campanella was flung to Jackie to retire the side.

The final score, it happens, was 4-3.

During the game, coach Clyde Sukeforth managed the one-time Durocher Dandies.

# A Great Achievement

*Daily Worker*

IT'S A great day for sport.

The first Negro ballplayer has been picked for a major league spot. Jackie Robinson will **put 'em out at first base** from now on for the Brooklyn Dodgers.

We congratulate Branch Rickey's team and its management for this historic demonstration that the fight for Americanism, for racial equality, goes forward.

We're proud that our sports page and its editors, Lester Rodney and Bill Mardo, who fought the good fight in this cause, pioneered in it, really helped get the ball rolling. *New York, N.Y.*

Now, of course, the fight has to go on to get many more of our qualified Negro ballplayers into the big leagues. *Fri. 4-11-47*

Valdosta, Ga., Daily Times
April 11, 1947

# Jackie Robinson, First Negro to Reach Major Leagues Is 'On Spot'

By JOE REICHLER

BROOKLYN, April 11 (AP)—"I am on the spot and I know it. But I'm prepared for it. I am certain I can win them over in Brooklyn as I did in Montreal."

That was the observation today of Jackie Robinson—first Negro to reach the major leagues in modern organized baseball.

The 28-year-old former U.C.L.A. all-around athlete was still in a daze over the swiftly moving events which made him a Dodger yesterday.

The ex-Army lieutenant said he expected no serious trouble from anyone and was sure that everything would work out fine. "It is not a question of the players getting along with me. I will be on the spot to see if I can get along with them.

"Believe me, I fully realize that it means — my being given this wonderful opportunity to play in the big leagues—not only to me, but to my race and to baseball," said the ex-collegian who was hand-picked by Branch Rickey, Brooklyn president, from the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro Baseball League 18 months ago.

The well-built athlete, whose work both at bat and in the field with Montreal last year, prompted International League President Frank J. Shaughnessy to acclaim him as "the greatest minor league player," did not care to predict how he would fare in the big time.

"I'm just going to take a cut at the ball everytime a good one comes over the plate, try to connect, run as fast as I can and play the game hard and clean," he said.

Bobby is convinced he can break down the barrier of prejudice. "Once the ice is broken the idea accepted, it will become a natural thing for Negro players to mingle with white players in organized ball.

"I know I am heading for trouble, especially in a couple of cities in the National League circuit," he said frankly, "possibly more than I encountered in the International League, but I know I can take it. I realize some players and fans will be trying to upset me and will have plenty of material, but I went through that in the minors and I am prepared to go through it again."

# IL Head Says Robinson's Cinch to Make Good

*PM* *Thurs. 1-16-47*

By JACK MAHON

Will Jackie Robinson, hub of most of the Hot Stove League arguments in Brooklyn, make the grade at second base this season for the dear old Dodgers? Well, fans, we know one baseball expert, who is a heap sight better than a green hand, and his verdict is: "Robinson's a cinch to win the second base job with Brooklyn this season." *New York, N.Y.*

Our authority is Frank "Shag" Shaughnessy, former president of the Dodger farm club, Montreal, and current president of the International League. "Shag" is as high as a reefer addict on the speed king whose big bat and blazing speed made him one of the most popular players in the loop last year.

"Robinson is the best minor league prospect I've seen in the last 30 years," said "Shag." "He's an old-time ball player and *already* does the things the old-timers like Jack Barry, Eddie Collins, and the others did in their prime. He makes very few mistakes in the field and when he's running those bases—and he can fly—he knows where every ball player in the park is."

"Shag" said Robinson could not make the grade at third base, because his throwing arm is weak, but predicted Eddie Stanky, Eddie Miksis, and any other candidates for the keystone sack position would have to be pretty hot to win the job from Robbie. *PM*

"Robinson is a slick man on double plays, too," he continued. "He shades that bag perfectly and he works well under pressure. I saw him in about 50 games last season and he was under pressure most of the time. I instructed our umpires to wave any pitcher out of the game immediately if he threw at the boy. There were many players in the league at the start of the season, but when the rest of the loop realized Robinson '*had*' it, he won the respect of everyone."

Shaughnessy thinks Robbie will rank with the very best bunters ever to show in a Brooklyn uniform. He added that while not a "long ball" hitter, Jackie hits a sharp drive and has a keen eye. "He seldom swings at a bad ball," concluded "Shag." "I've seen him take a few, but can't remember him biting at a bad pitch more than once or twice in the many games I watched him play."

Could he stand major league pressure? *New York, N.Y.*

"That's something no one can answered Shaughnessy. "Robinson has a lot of class, a swell personality, and gets along with everyone. I think he'll make it." *Thurs. 1-16-47*

## NEGROES HONOR ROBINSON

*The Times*

### Group of 100 to Sit Near Dodger Dugout in Boston Sunday

BOSTON, April 17 (AP)—At least 100 Boston Negroes will sit near the Dodgers' dugout at Braves Field Sunday to welcome Jackie Robinson, only member of their race in the major leagues. The 100 tickets were purchased by Anselmo Krigger, Negro engineer from the West End and a former Cambridge High School and Massachusettes Institute of Technology athlete. *New York, N.Y.*

"They've all been taken. I guess I'll have to get more," he said today. *Fri. 4-18-47*

Robinson, Brooklyn first baseman, and Branch Rickey, Dodger president, will receive bouquets. If Rickey is not present the second basket of flowers will be presented to Clyde Sukeforth, manager pro tem of the Dodgers who formerly played semi-pro baseball in this area.

# Robinson Is Injured In Dodger Tilt

*The Courier-Journal* *Sun. 4-6-47*

Havana, April 5 (AP)—Jackie Robinson was hurt as the Brooklyn Dodgers defeated their Montreal Royal farm club, 6-3 fo rthe eighth win in 10 starts against the International Leaguers today.

Robinson was playing first base for the Royals when Catcher Bruce Edwards, who had singled, slid back into the bag while Jackie was reaching for a high throw. The collision knocked out the Negro star, who left the game on regaining consciousness. He said he had a slightly wrenched back and bruised right elbow, but would be ready again by tomorrow. *Louisville, Ky.*

Hal Gregg yielded one run in the five innings he worked. Kirby Higbe finished up for the Brooks.

Montreal (IL) ......000 010 110—3 7
Brooklyn (N) ......000 051 00x—6 6
Gerhauser, Meagher (6) and Sandlock
Gregg, Higbe (6) and Edwards, Bragar (6).

*Sun. 4-6-47*

## JACKIE EARNS SOLE RIGHTS TO FIRST

The best indication of Manager Burt Shotton's satisfaction with Jackie Robinson as a first baseman was the release on option to Montreal of Ed Stevens, last year's guardian of the initial sack. Ed will replace Lou Ruchser, who hasn't been hitting for the Dodgers' number one farm. In 193 games with the Dodgers last year, Stevens hit .242, and showed little improvement this spring.

# THE SPORTS BEAT

By WENDELL SMITH

Courier - Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sat-8-9-47

## Robinson Year's Number One Rookie

Jackie Robinson has a host of admirers across the country, and deservedly so. He came into the big leagues under more pressure than any rookie in history. He was a star when he made his debut, having won the International League batting crown in 1946 and was the sparkplug of the Montreal team that won the pennant. But besides all those laurels Jackie came in to break down a time-worn tradition. He made his bow as the first Negro in modern baseball history. And, fortunately, he made good.

The average white player finds a rocky road when he crashes the majors, too. If he happened to have been a whirlwind in the minors, he automatically becomes a marked man when he enters the big time. Even his own teammates expect miracles of him, and the opposition always bears down to see "if he's as good as they say he is."

Take the case, for example, of Lou Novikoff who was a sensation in the minors. He won batting championships in every league in which he ever played. He came up to the Cubs ballyhooed sky-high. He was, they said, the player who would lead the Cubs to a pennant. But "Larrup-in" Lou, sometimes known as the "Mad Russian," was a big league flop. The build-up they gave him before he started playing with Chicago did nothing but help tear Lou down. Whenever he stepped to the plate, the pitchers reared back and threw just a bit harder. The infielders and outfielders seemed to have just a little more "umph" when it came to fielding balls he hit.

So Lou Novikoff, after two real thorough chances, finally was sent back to the Pacific Coast League. He just didn't have it, somehow. On the other hand, some rookies come up and make good in spite of the advance publicity. One of them was Joe DiMaggio who came roaring out of San Francisco on the wings of a tremendous publicity campaign to the Yankees. But, unlike Novikoff, DiMaggio lived up to all the advance notices. He was a sensation from the start and has been ever since.

## Record Speaks For Itself

Sat-8-9-47

**Robinson, crashing through the color barrier and everything else, came into the majors on the wave of more tom-tom beating than Organized Baseball had ever heard before. He faced pitchers and defensive players who displayed more zest to get him out than any player in history. Not even DiMaggio or Novikoff faced such zealous opposition. But Robinson's been going his merry-way, hitting around .300 all season, leading the league in runs-scored and stolen bases. He's taken the taunts and bellowing cracks of the enemy in stride, and somehow has managed to hold his head under the most trying circumstances.**

**He is one of the three players in the National League who has participated in more than 100 games. The other two are Reese, Brooklyn's shortstop, and Miller, shortstop for Cincinnati. Robinson has stolen fifteen bases to lead the league. Johnny Hopp of Boston is second with ten.**

**Only one other player has been at bat more times than Robinson. He is Cincinnati's Baumholtz. At this writing, Robinson has been at bat 384 times and has an average of .297. Baumholtz has made the trek to the plate 406 times and is hitting .291. Only two players, Harry Walker of Philadelphia and Frank Gustine of Pittsburgh, have more hits. Walker, who is leading the league, has 118 safeties to his credit. Gustine has 124, and Robinson 114.**

**That record speaks for itself. Robinson definitely has delivered and Branch Rickey does not regret in the least that he sold Howie Schultz to Philadelphia for $50,000 and sent Eddie Stevens to his Montreal farm club. They both played first base for Brooklyn last season and when Robinson came along had to move on elsewhere.**

**Taking everything into consideration, it is our opinion that Jackie Robinson rates the "Rookie of the Year" honor. There isn't a first-year man in the league owning a record comparable to his. Johnny Jorgenson, who, like Jackie, came from Montreal, has established himself as a real big league third baseman. He also tops Robinson by a few percentage points in hitting. But Jorgenson does not lead a single department in the offensive records.**

**Roger Hornsby, the ex-major league star and of late "professor of hitting" for the Cleveland Indians, might very well become the manager of the Tribe if Lou Boudreau decides to move elsewhere next season . . . Now that the color bars have been dropped in the majors, we wonder if Hornsby is qualified to hold such a responsibility . . . When Montreal signed Robinson and Pitcher Johnny Wright in 1945, Hornsby was bitter about it and said as much during an interview with the United Press . . . "I don't think it should happen," he said when asked what he thought about the admission of Negroes into Organized Baseball. "I think they should develop their own stars and stay in their own leagues" . . . Major league scouts are eyeing Oreste Minoso, 22-year-old third baseman of the New York Cubans . . . Approximately 75,000 turned out to see the East-West game and the All-Star game between the Negro American and National Leagues last week . . . Does that look like interest in Negro baseball is on the wane?**

**Grambling College, the little school with the big and successful athletic program, is going to play most of its football games under lights this year . . . Paul Richards, manager of Buffalo's International League team and a former Detroit Tiger backstop, says Montreal's Roy Campanella is the best catcher in baseball today . . . Alex Pompez, the "Honest Cuban," deserves an extra pat on the back for the excellent job he did promoting the All-Star game in New York . . . In fact, he deserves an extra pat from Horace Stoneham, owner of the New York Giants and the Polo Grounds, where the game was played . . . Stoneham's cut for renting the park to the Negro leagues was $10,000 for just that one game! . . . The outfielder in Negro baseball is Sammy Jethroe of the Cleveland Buckeyes . . . Bill Veeck, boss of the big league Indians, has told Ernie Wright, owner of the Buckeyes, to turn down all bids from other major league clubs for Sammy's contract . . . Don't be surprised if the White Sox grab Pitcher Jessup Gentry of the Chicago American Giants . . . One-Minute Interview with Ezzard Charles—"Elmer, (Violent) Ray was tough. I couldn't get a good shot at him, and I got tired near the end of the fight."**

There is considerable apprehension within the ranks of Negro baseball these days. In fact, there is more pessimisim in the front offices than we have ever witnessed before. Owners of teams in the Negro American and National Leagues are concerned because they fear that Organized Baseball is going to take their stars and subsequently kill Negro baseball altogether.

They feel, too, that the admission of Negro players in the majors is going to have an effect on attendance at their games. They point out, for instance, that a game between Negro teams in New York will not be a financial success if Jackie Robinson and the Brooklyn Dodgers are playing the same time at the Polo Grounds. They contend they have felt the effects of Robinson's drawing power already this season.

Sat-8-9-47

It would be, indeed, a great tragedy if Negro baseball should die. But we have enough faith in the fans and the game itself to believe that it has a brighter future than ever before. The fans will continue to support Negro baseball, we believe, if the Negro leagues have faith in themselves and in the future, and roll up their sleeves and go to work. Negro baseball must try to develop more stars. It must present its contests in a dignified and business-like manner. It must hire a real publicity director who will go out into the public and ballyhoo the business. We do not believe that the admission of six or seven Negroes into the majors will cause the death of Negro baseball. There are well over four hundred players making a living in the Negro leagues, and we are sure that the public will be willing to support such a big business.

Owners in the Negro American and National Leagues can no longer promote their games in a haphazard, devil-may-care manner. They are going to have to keep their business before the public constantly, develop and encourage the young players, and develop some king of affiliation with Organized Baseball.

We know that is a big job. But it is a job that must be done . . . and done immediately.

Sat-8-9-47

# Jackie Stars Even Though Bums Lose

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

By OLLIE STEWART

NEW YORK—It took me more than 40 years to do it, but at last I have seen a major league baseball game—and Jackie Robinson in action. Sat-7-12-47

Running true to form, I picked the worst day of the season to go to Ebbets Field in Brooklyn. I went on July 3, that awful day when the Giants mauled, lambasted and buried the Dodgers under a 19 to 2 score. It was murder.

### A Perfect Bunt

The one bright spot of the afternoon was a perfect bunt laid down the third base line by Jackie Robinson on his third trip up to the plate.

Eddie Stanky was moved to second, and Robinson was safe at first, when Dave Koslo, Giant pitcher was unable to field the bunt in time to make a play.

### 20-Game Hitting Streak

This exhibition of Robinson's skill ran his hitting streak in consecutive games up to 20.

But before this happened, the well had caved in on the Dodgers. They really looked like what people call them—BUMS.

Robinson made the first error, booting a fast hopper between first and second that looked like a sure double play. Then, Jorgenson at third fielded another double play ball, but couldn't decide where to throw—until it was too late to throw anywhere.

### Hailed by Fans

Then the Giants started hitting home runs,—three Dodger pitchers helping them along by lobbing fat ones up to the plate. Before three innings were finished the Giants had 18 runs on the scoreboard and the Bums, a big zero.

Jackie Robinson, wearing No. 42 uniform, with blue cap and blue stocking to go with the club's white home attire, got a big hand when he came out to his first base position to warm up before the game. Sat-7-12-47

### Play, Learn Same Time

He is not only playing his first year in the major leagues, but is also learning to play first base at the same time. He was at second for Montreal last year, when he batted .349 to lead the International League.

He was batting .314 when he hit safely in his 20th game on July 3.

Robinson fields easily, throws accurately and has less than a half-dozen errors charged against him so far this season. He has had a part in almost all of the 74 double plays the Dodgers have come up with this season.

### Leads in Stolen Bases

Jackie walks pigeon-toed, but is so fast on the base paths that he leads the league in stolen bases, having pilfered 14 to date.

Usually, when a batter is at the plate, Robinson stands with feet wide apart and sways his hips. Then with the downward motion of the the pitcher's arm he sort of glides forward, and if the ball is hit to short or second, charges to first base.

If the ball is hit to him, he seldom throws to the pitcher, who covers first. Not Robinson, who can run. He prefers racing to the bag—and he hasn't lost yet. He has beaten the runner every time.

### Pebble Picker

Jackie is pebble picker-upper. No matter how thoroughly the blue-clad gorundkeepers level and drag the infield, they don't do it good enough to suit Mr. Robinson. He just keeps stooping and picking up and tossing away, every time his eye spots a pebble.

The only time I saw him forget to worry about the smoothness of the terrain around first base was in the second inning of Thursday's game, when the Giants chalked up 9 big runs.

Jackie stood disconsolately at first, and made circles on the ground with the toe of his right foot.

Sat-7-12-47

### Batting Techniques

At bat, Robinson doesn't fidget with his feet like a lot of batters—he fidgets with his hands.

He doesn't play with his cap much. He keeps up a rhythmic swing of his bat—forward and backward—and with each swing, one hand slips down to brush against his trousers.

Batting right-handed, with feet wide apart, his right hand darts down on the forward swing, and when the bat goes back past his shoulder, the left palm takes a quick swipe at his thigh.

Like the good ball player that he is, Robinson keeps the oppos-

...team guessing whether he will or will not bunt.

**Pitcher's Thorn**

At the very last moment he shortens his grip on the bat and taps the ball to the ground—and is already on his way to first.

On the base path he is a thorn in the side of a pitcher—particularly a right-handed pitcher, when he is on first base.

Jackie stands nonchalently on the bag until the pitcher goes into his windup, then takes two or three quick strides in a fast break toward second.

No pitcher can ignore him, because each break may be the real thing.

Sat. 7-12-47

If the pitcher throws to first, Robinson has a unique way of hitting the bag from behind, and when the ball arrives and the tag attempted, Robinson is standing directly behind the first baseman.

**Give 'Em Jitters**

Several pitchers have lost their control after Jackie gave them the jitters with his base-running antics. It pays off, too, in the number of walks given to batters while Robinson is on base—any base.

Jackie is tall and can jump for the high ones thrown to first. He stretches far and leans 'way in to scoop up the low ones coming from third base way.

Holding the bag against a runner, Jackie stands squarely in front of the bag, with his left foot forward and his right heel always in contact with the bag.

**Workers With Pitcher**

I didn't see him attempt to tag a runner once when the pitcher threw to first to keep the runner on. He merely caught the ball and threw it back to the pitcher.

After every out, Jackie throws the ball to the catcher. The catcher fires it to second, thence it goes to the shortstop, and on to the third sacker.

The third baseman fires it back to Jackie, who shoots it back to him. The pitcher then accepts the ball.

**Very Much at Ease**

Robinson seemed very much at ease when I saw him play. He turns constantly and chats with the first base umpire.

Playing a batter expected to bunt, Jackie walks up halfway to the batter's box and leans forward. Then he jumps forward with the forward motion of the pitcher's arm.

When the "Star Spangled Banner" is played and sung before every game, Robinson, like all the Dodgers, faces the American flag in center field and holds his blue cap over his heart.

**Front Office Estimate**

Before Thursday's game, I contacted the Brooklyn front office to see how Branch Rickey and his associates feel about Robinson's performance as a converted second baseman, holding down the first sack.

Sat. 7-12-47

I asked for Mr. Rickey, and then did I learn that Branch has a son. The girl asked me: "Do you want to see Junior or Senior?"

**Jackie Learns Fast**

I told Rickey Senior would suit me. He wasn't available at the moment, so a spokesman for the Dodger boss told me I could quote Branch Rickey on the following:

"You haven't seen this boy (Robinson) play ball yet. He is not only learning to play a new position, but has been under terrific pressure.

"But there's one thing most people don't know about Jackie—you don't have to tell him something but once. He learns fast and doesn't forget a thing you tell him."

**Team Spirit Excellent**

What about his relationship with the rest of the team?

"Robinson is not only a fine ball player, but his team spirit and willingness to learn is unsurpassed."

We might have had a nice long talk, had I not made the mistake of asking to be put in touch with Robinson, so as to get some first-hand impressions from talking to him. That settled it.

**Thirty for Reporter**

"Good day, Mr. Stewart," said the Brooklyn official. "We certainly won't put you in touch with Robinson, But you have our permission if you can get in touch with him yourself.

Me, I can think of a lot of things easier to do than get in touch with Jackie Robinson—with a subpoena.

# Writer Discloses 'Incidents' Involving Jackie Robinson

Afro-American Sat. 9-6-47 51B
Baltimore, Md.

A New York baseball writer, assigned to cover the Brooklyn Dodgers, reveals two interesting "incidents" involving Jackie Robinson, in an article published in a national magazine entitled "If You Were Jackie Robinson."

The first refers to a play at Sportsman's Park, St. Louis, early in the season, in which Harry (The Cat) Brechen, winner of three 1946 World Series games, was whipping the Bums in easy fashion.

In the sixth inning, Jackie, according to the writer, topped a ball between the pitcher's mound and first base. Brecheen was on it like a cat, but instead of making the easy toss to first base, the Cardinal hurler circled and met Jackie in the baseline and tagged him.

Robinson accepted the tag but said quietly to Brecheen: "You better play your position as you should. If you do that again, I'll set you right on the seat of your pants."

Sat. 9-6-47

**Target of Kick**

Another "incident" related by McGowen in the piece tells of a play at second base in Wrigley Field. Jackie had stolen second on Bill Lee and was dancing off the bag to worry the Chicago Cub ace. The latter made several throws in an effort to pick him off but without avail.

One play was rather close, Robbie having to slide between the legs of Len Merullo, Cub shortstop. Merullo reputedly kicked at Jackie as he was trying to untangle himself. The latter raised his left arm in what appeared to be a retaliatory movement.

Sat. 9-6-47

Nothing developed as a result of either "incident."

# Walter White

## People, Politics And Places

Chicago Ill. Defender 51B

**Jackie Robinson 'On Trial'**

IT IS PROFOUNDLY TO BE HOPED that baseball fans, especially colored ones, will respect Jackie Robinson's request that he be allowed to pioneer as the first known Negro ball player in the big leagues without too much ill-advised interference from the stands. There will be enough pressure on him from prejudiced fellow players and white fans to test the mettle of any human being.

Sat. 4-26-47

Base runners with sharpened spikes rising high to break up double plays or lunging back to the bag to avoid being picked off are a normal part of professional baseball. A man's livelihood causes him to do lots of things he wouldn't ordinarily do, especially when players remember that the next season's contract and salary depend on batting averages, runs scored and batted in, bases stolen and all-round aggressiveness.

Jackie Robinson may during the coming season be spiked or otherwise injured just as he was during the late days of the training season when Bruce Edwards of the Brooklyn Dodgers ran into him on the base paths and shook him up. A lot of white ballplayers will also be injured between the opening and closing of the season in similar fashion. Let's be careful about charging that Jackie was deliberately hurt unless it can be clearly proved. Most of the big league players will treat him like any other player and, in fact, probably go out of their way to avoid hurting Robinson for fear they may be accused wrongly.

Chicago Ill. Defender

And just because a lot of the white players are Southerners most certainly does not mean that every last one of them will be anti-Robinson. Clay Hooper, Jackie's manager at Montreal, did everything he possibly could to help him make the big leagues. Hooper is from Mississippi. A number of Southerners like Carl Hubbell, the great screw-ball pitcher of the Giants of a few years ago and many other Dixie players have expressed themselves as favoring the admission of Negro ball players to the big leagues during recent years solely on the basis of their ability. And some Northern players have publicly or privately taken just the opposite stand. We should be intelligent enough to refrain from going off half-cocked on this score.

**Harm of Misguided Enthusiasm**

AN EXAMPLE of how misguided enthusiasm for Jackie can do him and the cause of breaking the color line in baseball much more harm than good occurred at Ebbets Field in Brooklyn the day of the first exhibition game of the season. A large number of colored fans turned out. Jackie was cheered as lustily when he slapped into a double play as though he had hit a homer with the bases loaded. That was bad enough but not the worst example of bad manners. Whenever Dixie Walker came to bat he was lustily and even profanely booed for allegedly having said he would not play on the same team with a Negro. PM, ardently pro-Robinson, quotes Walker and asserts its belief he is telling the truth in denying he made any such statement. Whatever the circumstances, Walker and Robinson ARE playing on the same team. Let's wait and see what happens.

Sat. 4-26-47

Finally, may I plead with that minority of Negroes who appear to believe a baseball game can be seen only through a haze of alcohol to postpone their drinking until after the games in which they go to see Jackie (or any other player or team) play. I used to take my family and friends to the Yankee Stadium or Polo Grounds to see colored professional teams play. But for the past few years I have not done so because the drinking and loud-mouthed profanity, vulgarity and fighting of some colored fans, female as well as male, so disgusted us. The overwhelming majority of the crowds were as well-behaved as any other patrons. But the few were so obnoxious that that gave all Negroes a bad name. To cap the climax one such character who was arrested when he beat up another man (which is precisely what should have happened) had the gall to appeal to the NAACP on the alleged grounds that he "had been discriminated against because of his color."

**'Let's Do Our Part'**

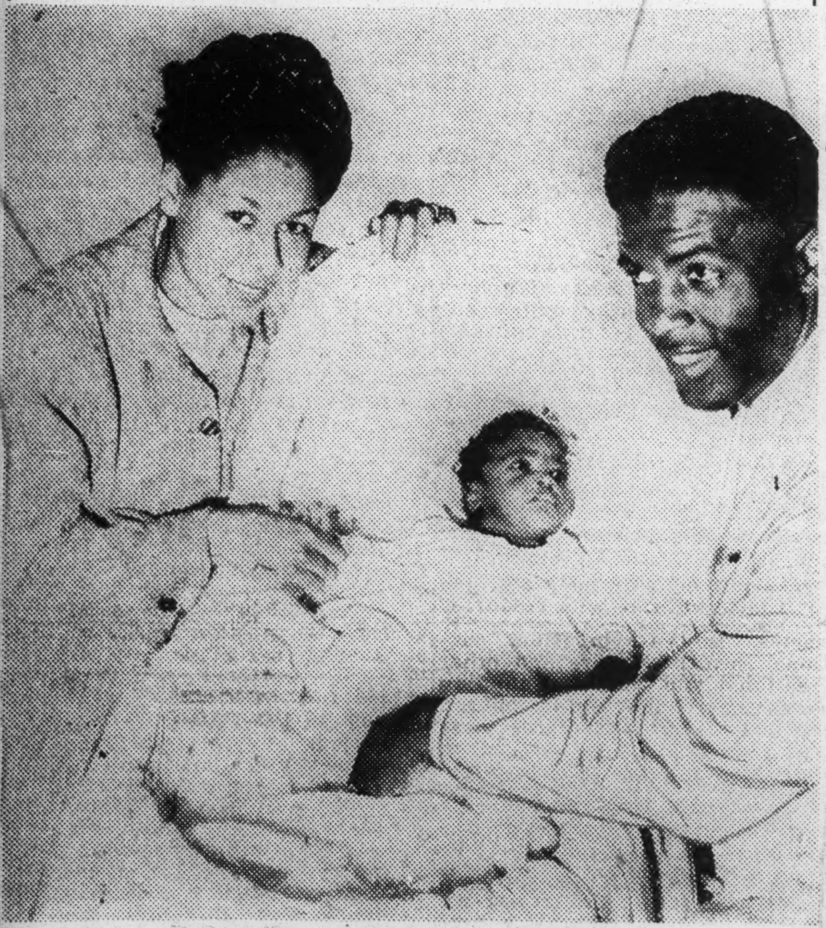
JACKIE ROBINSON has demonstrated his ability as a ball player and his level-headedness and courage as a man. The best help we can give him to smash for all time the color line in highly lucrative professional baseball for himself and for others is to act like civilized human beings.

Branch Rickey has done his part. Whether he and other major league managers will give opportunity to other Negroes will depend in part on us, almost as much as on the players themselves. Let's do our part.

**He's Really Proud**

# Rachel's Dad Didn't Approve of Jackie At First...But, Now!

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier Sat. 4-26-47



The Jackie Robinsons at home

* * *

**By EVELYN SHERRER, Courier Staff Writer**

NEW YORK—"Go on honey, tell her!"

But Rachel Isum Robinson stammered and shifted nervously and looked for the world like she didn't want to "tell her." Jackie (the Scooter) Robinson egged her and teased her.

"Go on, tell her about your father. Tell her how he couldn't stand me. Tell her how he couldn't see us getting married. Why, he didn't think I was serious about you at all . . ."

Jammed up (and we mean that literally) in a room in downtown's Hotel McAlpin, Mr. and Mrs. Jackie and 5-month-old Jackie Jr. were happy, tired, a little bewildered and tremendously confident.

**". . . IT'S NOTHING"**

That is, until Jackie insisted on his wife talking about her father. He got a great kick out of her apparent discomforture. He continued: Sat. 4-26-47

"One day he asked her: 'I don't know what you see in that great

Rachel interrupted, "Oh, she doesn't want to hear all about that . . . It's nothing."

It didn't, however, turn out to be "nothing." Father Isum's disapproval of Jackie helped promote the romance, and it wasn't long before they were married.

"It started at school (UCLA). Jackie was the college hero and I was just a scrub in the freshman class. Nothing sensational happened. We just met and one thing led to another. I loved basketball, football and track, and Jack was taking part in all those sports. Baseball hadn't interested me until the possibility of Jack's going to Montreal loomed. Then I got to know the finer points of the game.

"It was quite some time before I realized Jack was headed for the majors. Of course I knew he certainly was deserving a chance." Rachel was almost indignant when she added this. As if he should have been in the majors last year or the year before.

She's crazy about Clyde Sukeworth, Dodger coach. She hasn't yet met any of the other players or their wives, but she had talked to Leo Durocher on the phone. She didn't feel it likely that she would come into contact with them too often, since the team management doesn't seat players' relatives in a bloc and their wives hardly ever are on the road with their husbands. Sat. 4-26-47

Rachel is proud of Jackie in a restrained manner. She is not particularly demonstrative and she is calm and unruffled about his game. Her finishing-school poise and charm are not of the Brooklyn baseball fan variety. If Jackie is not hitting, she is philosophical about it. "He'll hit tomorrow."

She was, however, responsive when she sought for words to describe exactly how she felt during last Tuesday's opening game at Ebbets Field. She glowed, she started to speak, and she raised her hands helplessly.

"No," she exclaimed. "There's just no way to describe how I felt . . . there's just no way!"

**JUNIOR VOLCANO**

All of which meant that the enthusiasm Mrs. Jackie tries to shoulder is a junior volcano.

She is presently weighing the possibility of some kind of outside study that WILL NOT interfere with her going to the ball games. She received her BS at UCLA and is a registered nurse, but has applied her training only to matters at hand, i. e., the baby. So now she is planning on taking a course or a series of courses in interior decorating. But they will be courses that don't fall within nine innings of a Brooklyn baseball game. That is cut and dried.

Dixie Walker and the stories that have been scattered about his aversion to Jackie, whether true or not, haven't upset Rachel in the least. She is as sure as everything that somewhere along the line the two will get together.

"Living and eating and traveling together will straighten that out. It's inevitable. And anyway, there's always a Dixie Walker."

**GRACIOUS FIRST LADY**

At this point the baby gurgled. Jackie wanted to know if "this" was going on the woman's page, and a crowd of newspapermen entered the room.

"It goes on all the time," Rachel whispered. "But we don't mind, although the baby should be asleep by now.

Rachel was amazingly gracious as she sought standing room for eleven people. She was the First Lady. She was the lady who will meet Jackie's problems just as Jackie does. The right way. And for a long time she will muse about her Pop and his earlier attitude and how he is probably out on the Coast right now bragging to the "boys" about his son-in-law.

# Dodgers' Tutor Predicts Jackie Will Hit .300

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier Sat. 6-7-47

**By WENDELL SMITH**
**(Sports Editor)**

BROOKLYN—Still drawing capacity crowds whenever they have appeared, the Brooklyn Dodgers arrived home Saturday night two games out of first place and primed for an eleven-day home stand against an invasion of the Western clubs. The Dodgers got off on the right foot in their first game of this local stand by tripping the Cardinals from St. Louis, 6 to 1, behind the stellar twirling of "Handsome Harry" Taylor, the slim righthander from Indiana.

Meantime, Jackie Robinson, rookie first baseman, brought smiles to the faces of the Brooklyn brain trust during the past week by his performances at bat and in the field. He socked a lusty double in Boston Saturday during a Dodger rally that ended up with Brooklyn scoring four runs and sewing up a 4-0 win for pitcher Ralph Branca. Jackie also stole a base, and in general was more than just an ordinary ball player in the particular series, which Boston took by taking a twin bill on Memorial Day.

Sunday, against the Cards, Jackie found out that St. Louis pitching did not have him baffled and that he can sock out safeties against the best of them. He got two hits before the largest Brooklyn crowd of the season Sunday and stole his sixth base of the year, giving him the leadership in that department, insofar as the National League is concerned.

He played an important part in the Dodgers' victory over the Cards, Sunday, and was equally impressive in the three-game series with the Giants who dropped two out of three to the Flatbush nine.

Robinson not only seems to be coming around to the ways of big leaguers, but from all indications he is now firmly convinced that he's ready to go places. Perhaps he'll turn out to be as destructive in the National League now as he was in the minors last season. He seems to be convinced that the toughest part of the season is over, and now that he is no longer "on exhibition" he can concentrate on the ole college try for Brooklyn.

**CONFIDENT**

"I feel good now," he said after Sunday's game. "I think I'm ready to start hitting like I know I can. In fact, I'm almost willing to bet that I'll end the season with an average of .300 or better. I've been around the loop once and know just about what to expect." Not only did he assume a new air of confidence during the past week, but those who have predicted a bright future for him within the Brooklyn organization itself, are looking through rose-colored glasses now. Sat. 6-7-47

Clyde Sukeforth, the shrewd and talented Dodger coach, is so confident that Robinson will get going now, that he bet Ben Chapman, Philadelphia manager, that Jackie will wind up the season with a .300 average or better. The Brooklyn coach is so sure "Robbie" will be a top hitter that he bet the Philly pilot a new hat, of which will be a risk of something like $20. "Jackie will hit better and better as the season goes on," Sukeforth said Saturday night. "He is just a natural hitter, and no one is going to keep him out of that .300 class."

Manager Bert Shotton is of the same opinion, and said he is perfectly satisfied with Jackie's performance at the present time. "He's playing good enough ball for me," Shotton said. "If all I had to worry about was first base, I could go home nights and sleep well. There isn't a better first baseman around, and that includes Johnny Mize of the Giants."

**SUNDAY'S BOX SCORE**

| Brooklyn— | AB | H | P | Brooklyn— | AB | H | P |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S'ndinst, 2b | 3 | 0 | 1 | Stanky, 2b. | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| Moore, cf.. | 4 | 1 | 3 | **Robinson, 1b** | 3 | 2 | 11 |
| Musial, 1b. | 4 | 1 | 4 | Reiser, cf... | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| Sl'ghter, lf. | 4 | 1 | 6 | Furillo, lf... | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Northy, rf. | 3 | 0 | 1 | Walker, rf.. | 4 | 3 | 4 |
| Kur'ski, 3b. | 1 | 0 | 0 | Edwards, c. | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Cross, 3b... | 2 | 0 | 2 | Jorgn'sn, 3b. | 4 | 0 | 2 |
| Marion, ss. | 4 | 1 | 0 | Reese, ss... | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| Gargiola, c. | 3 | 0 | 6 | Taylor, p... | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Brechen, p. | 2 | 1 | 1 | | | | |
| Wilks, p... | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| Dickson, p. | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| a-Sisler ... | 1 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| Hearn, p.. | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| b-Dusak .. | 1 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| Totals ... | 32 | 5 | 24 | Totals ... | 32 | 11 | 27 |

a-Flied out for Dickson in seventh.
b-Flied out for Hearn in ninth.

| | |
|---|---|
| St. Louis | 000 010 000—1 |
| Brooklyn | 200 031 00*—6 |

Runs—St. Louis: Breechen. Brooklyn: **Robinson**, Reiser 2, Furillo 2, Reese. Errors—Northey, Garagiola. Runs batted in—Walker 3, Schoendienst, Furillo, Reese. Two base hits—Marion, Furillo, Slaughter. Three base hit—Brecheen. Home run—Reese. Stolen base — **Robinson.** Double plays—Slaughter to Garagiola; Garagiola to Cross. Left on bases—St. Louis 9, Brooklyn 7. Bases on balls—Off Taylor 5, off Brecheen 3, off Hearn 1. Struck out—By Taylor 2, by Brecheen 3, by Hearn 2. Hits—Of Brecheen 7 in 4½ innings; off Wilks 1 in 1 inning; off Dickson 2 in ⅔ innig; off Hearn 1 in 2 innings. Hit by pitcher—By Brecheen (Edwards). Losing pitcher—Brecheen. Umpires—Barlick, Jorda and Pinelli. Time—2:30. Attendance—34,109 paid.

# SUPERB CONDUCT

## Big League Baseball Fans View Robinson With Decorum and Restraint

By JOSEPH D. BIBB

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier Sat. 6-7-47

ALMOST fifty thousand enthusiastic sports lovers milled into historic Wrigley Field when Robinson was first unveiled as a member of the Brooklyn Club at Chicago. The huge crowd smashed an attendance record and the baseball writers all admitted that the colored player was the magnetic attraction. He was the main drawing card.

And suffice it to say that thousands of colored people were there. In fear of disorder, and perhaps excesses of enthusiasm, the Chicago police department prepared itself for the occasion. Most of the most heroic and hard boiled cops of Chicago were assigned to the ball

park. "Two Gun Pete," a stern, colored minion of the law, and his most valorous pals were there. They were prepared to "cope with any situation." But there was order. The conduct of the colored spectators was exemplary and even though the sepia star struck out twice and scaled no spectacular heights, the show went on without friction or disorderly demonstration.

**Mr. Bibb**

This is news because colored people have aroused criticism in Chicago because of their riotous behaviour at the ball parks, the theaters and in many other public places.

* * *

**THE SUNDAY** before Robinson made his debut in Chicago, some unrestrained and untempered folks disgraced themselves at Comiskey Park, the home of the Chicago White Sox. They came loaded with "fire water." They cursed and debased themselves and made themselves contemptible and obnoxious. A colored lad, at his first big league game, witnessing the debacle, innocently asked his grandfather, "Are those 'Negroes' down there misbehaving?" A white man sitting in front of the kid turned around and laughingly answered, "Yes, son, and the very worst kind."

We are happy to relate that no so such extravagances and excesses were evident when Jack came to town. The colored spectators seem to sense that their athletic idol was on trial and that their behaviour could prove his undoing and destroy the gains of the colored Americans in the world of sport.

It is highly significant to understand that the colored people of Chicago were conscious of the responsibility of their spectators. They knew of the consequences rowdyism. They had been alerted into action and they themselves had prepared to squelch any erratic outbursts by the rabble. Conduct has become highly important to colored Americans. *Sat. 6-7-47*

Before The Pittsburgh Courier took cognizance of the misconduct and the below-par behaviour of unthinking colored people, their antics and frailties were expected and accepted as the order of the day. That is no longer true. Sub-standard conduct has been challenged. People are constantly deploring the display of the flotsam and the jetsam. hTe dire consequences have been evaluated and no longer are good citizens permitting themselves to be crucifiied by the foolish few that do not seem to care.

* * *

**ROBINSON'S DEBUT** in Chicago was awaited with bated breath. When one hoodlum declared that he had reserved a box, planned to put on a show, and carry a stock of liquid refreshment with him, he was told that if he did "the boys" would see that his ears were pinned back. And they meant it. There were fears and apprehensions that some unlearned and untutored buffoons would attempt to put on their act and create a scene, but colored Chicago prepared to nip such actions in the bud and show the sports' world that colored Americans were ready for Democracy in athletics.

It has been long contended that we, Americans of mixed bloods and swarthy complexions, are not ready for the vaunted freedoms and liberties of a true Democracy. We are now engaged in proving the fallacy in such assertions. There is no better place to put it to test than upon the arenas of sport. The drama of the baseball diamond, the cinder path, the football gridiron and the squared circle of pugilism is a method of proving fraternity and equality. Students of conduct will find valuable material where the crowds gather. Soon we willl be better tested in the higher and more dignified places, until then, we are happy to report that here the conduct was superb.

## Jackie jimcrowed

*5/2 Los Angeles Tribune*

Jackie Robinson, first Negro in the Majors, suffered jimcrow when the Brooklyn Dodger played at St. Louis two weeks ago, altnough Missouri is one of the few southern states without jimcrow laws. *Los Angeles, Calif.*

While his Dodger teammates were plushily ensconced in a leading hotel, Robinson had to put up with an Army buddy. However on the field, he was given a rousing cheer by the fans. *Sat. 6-7-47*

# Tells Dodger Star To 'Stay In There'

*Afro American*
*Baltimore, Md.*

## Robbie Impressed With Czar's Sincerity in Cinn. Meeting

*(51b)*

**By STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

CINCINNATI—Blessings of Commissioner A. B. (Happy) Chandler were bestowed upon Jackie Robinson here Tuesday night.

It marked the first time since Robinson's elevation to the major leagues that the czar of organized baseball has taken cognizance of the storm raging around the Brooklyn Dodger first baseman.

He wished Jackie the best of luck and urged him to "stay in there and dig."

The incident took place shortly after the Dodgers dropped a hard-fought 7-5 game to the Cincinnati Reds. Jackie was making his way off the field when the commissioner leaned out of his box and called him to come over.

Shaking hands with Robinson, the commissioner said:

"Hello, Robinson, how do you feel? I'm glad to see you doing so well."

After an inaudible answer from the player, Chandler continued: "I wish you the very best luck. I hope you won't let anything get you down. I mean it. Just stay in there and dig."

It was all over in a brief minute. But in that short space of time another page had been added to the history-making episode that is Jackie Robinson's baseball life.

Asked later whether he was impressed by the commissioner's action, Jackie told the AFRO:

"I most certainly was. He appeared quite sincere and emphasized that he really meant what he said. And you must realize there was nothing compelling him to call me over to his box. That was purely voluntary."

**Quartered With Team**

Jackie arrived by train with the rest of the team on Tuesday morning. En route he played cards with Eddie Chandler, a pitcher; Marvin Rackley, outfielder, and Johnny Jorgensen, third baseman. Rackley and Jorgensen were Robinson's teammates at Montreal last season. *Sat. 5-24-47*

He was quartered at the Netherlands-Plaza Hotel, the usual stopping place of the Dodgers on trips here.

A few minutes before the meeting with Chandler, Jackie had played a prominent part in a ninth-inning rally that fell two runs short of deadlocking a 7-2 Redleg lead. He singled to center to score Lee Snider, then tallied a moment later on Carl Furillo's safety to account for two of the three Dodger markers.

In Wednesday's 2-0 loss to Cincinnati, Jackie got two of his team's six hits. He collected two more on Thursday against Pittsburgh, added another pair to run his string of consecutive games to 14, when the Dodgers played the Pirates on Friday.

The Dodger first-sacker had nothing to show for four trips to the plate on Saturday in Chicago, but the Bums won, 4-0.

CHAPMAN BANISHED:

*(51b)*

*Afro American*

# Record Crowd Watches Jackie in Philly Bow

*Baltimore, Md.*
*Thur. 5-17-47*

**By W. A. BROWER**

PHILADELPHIA

In his debut in Philly over the week end, Jackie Robinson turned in a commendable all-around performance as the Brooklyn Dodgers dropped three out of four with the Phillies.

His presence in the Dodgers' lineup undoubtedly was the principal magnet in Sunday's double-header which drew 41,660 (40,952 paid) at Shibe Park, the largest crowd ever to see a baseball game in Philadelphia.

Continuing his sterling work afield, Jackie also hit safely and scored a run in each of the four games. He was especially impressive on the basepaths.

**Scores in Both Games**

In Friday's game, Robbie weighed in with a double and single, both well-hit drives to right center. He scored one run as Brooklyn lost to Ben Chapman's team, 6-5 in an 11-inning struggle.

He whacked a single to left and chalked up an insurance tally in the Dodgers' 4-2 win Saturday afternoon.

Before Sunday's big throng, Robinson lined a single to left and eventually scored as Brooklyn was beaten 7-3 in the first game. He also blasted another single and tallied in the second game, lost also by the Dodgers, 5-4.

**Chapman Banished**

Jackie figured indirectly in banishment of Chapman for the second contest. In the first inning, Robbie, attempting a drag bunt, was hit by one of Schoolboy Rowe's pitches. He was waved to first base by Umpire George Barr. The Phils protested violently.

When the heckling of Barr continued from the dugout, the umpire decided he had enough and ordered Chapman off the bench.

**FRIDAY**

| BROOKLYN | Ab. | R. | H. | O. | A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stanky,2b | 5 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 2 |
| Robin'n,1b | 5 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 2 |
| Reiser,cf, | 5 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| F. Wal'r,rf | 5 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Furillo,lf | 5 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Jor'e'n,3b | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| Lavag'o,3b | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Edwards,c | 5 | 0 | 2 | 9 | 0 |
| Reese,ss | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Rojek,ss | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Gregg,p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Branca,p | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Casey,p | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1Schultz | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2Vaughan | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| T'ts | 41 | 5 | 10 | *31 | 12 |

| PHILADELPHIA | Ab. | R. | H. | O. | A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Newso'e,ss | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| H. W'er,cf | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Wy'tek,rf | 5 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| Etten,1b | 3 | 0 | 1 | 14 | 1 |
| Ennis,lf | 4 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| Se'inick,c | 3 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 1 |
| H'dley,3b | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Verban,2b | 5 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| Judd,p | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| L'nard,p | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| T'tls | 36 | 6 | 8 | 33 | 21 |

*One out when winning run scored.
1Rolled out for Branca in eighth.
2Rolled out for Reese in ninth.

Brooklyn ................ 0 0 0 aol. .D)
Brooklyn ....... 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 4 0 0 0—5
Philadelphia .... 0 5 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1—6

Errors—Gregg, Judd. Runs batted in—Verban (2), Newsome, H. Walker, Etten, F. Walker (2), Stanky, Reiser (2), (Ennis scored on Gregg's wild throw). Two-base hits—Robinson, Edwards, Reiser, Verban. Sacrifice—Handley. Double plays—Reiser, Stanky, Robinson; Jorgenson, Stanky, Robinson; Newsome, Verban, Etten; Robinson, Stanky.

**SATURDAY**

| BROOKLYN | Ab. | R. | H. | O. | A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stanky,2b | 5 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| Robin'n,1b | 4 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 2 |
| Reiser,cf | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| F. Wl'r,rf | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Herma'i,lf | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Edwards,c | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Rojek,3b | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Reese,ss | 4 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| Hatten,p | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| T'tls | 34 | 4 | 8 | 27 | 18 |

| PHILADELPHIA | Ab. | R. | H. | O. | A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Newso'e,ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| H. Wal'r,cf | 2 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| 2McCor'ck | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Wyros'k,rf | 3 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| 3Adams | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Schultz,1b | 4 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Ennis,lf | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Semini'k,c | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Hand'y,3b | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| Verban,2b | 3 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Hughes,p | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 1Rowe | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Donnelly,p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| T'tls | 28 | 2 | 6 | 27 | 13 |

*Thur. 5-17-47*

1Rolled out for Hughes in eighth.
2Rolled out for H. Walker in ninth.
3Walked for Wyrostek in ninth.

Brooklyn ........... 1 0 0 0 2 0 0 1 0—4
Philadelphia ........ 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0—2

Error—Schultz. Runs batted in—Seminick. Ennis, Reiser, Stanky (2), F. Walker. Two-base hit—Ennis. Home runs—Seminick, Reiser. Sacrifice—Hatten. Double plays—Rojek, Stanky, Robinson (2); Robinson, Reese.

**SUNDAY (1ST GAME)**

| BROOKLYN | Ab. | R. | H. | O. | A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stanky,2b | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 5 |
| Robin'n,1b | 3 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 1 |
| Reiser,cf | 3 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 0 |
| Furillo,cf | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| F. Wl'r,rf | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Herma'i,lf | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Edwards,c | 4 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| Rojek,3b | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| Reese,ss | 4 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Chandler,p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Taylor,p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Lombar'i,p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1Vaughn | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2Lavagetto | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3Lund | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| T'tls | 33 | 4 | 8 | 24 | 13 |

| PHILADELPHIA | Ab. | R. | H. | O. | A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Newso'ess, | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| H. Wal'r,cf | 3 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 0 |
| Ennis,lf | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Schultz,1b | 4 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 3 |
| Wyros'k,rf | 4 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| Seminick,c | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| Handley,3b | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Verban,2b | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| Rowe,p | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Heintz'n,p | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Ttls | 31 | 5 | 10 | 27 | 11 |

1Filled out for Chandler in fifth.
2Filled out for Taylor in seventh.
3Fanned for Hermanski in ninth.

Brooklyn ........... 2 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1—4
Philadelphia ........ 0 0 2 3 0 0 0 0 x—5

Runs batted in—F. Walker, Hermanski, Reiser, Edwards, H. Walker (2), Seminick, Handley, Rowe. Three-base hits—Reese, H. Walker, Seminick. Home runs—Rowe, Edwards. Double plays—Newsome, Seminick; Stanky, Reese, Robinson; Furillo, Stanky.

THE SPORTING NEWS named Jackie Robinson the "Rookie of the Year." According to Editor J. G. Taylor Spink, the selection was solely on the basis of "stark baseball values" and for this reason it was "spectacularly outstanding."

"Robinson was rated and examined," wrote Spinks, "solely as a freshman player in the big league — on the basis of his hitting, his running, his defensive play, his team value."

Jackie joined the Dodgers last April after a year with Montreal.

The Sporting News says: "He has laid down 42 successful bunts, 14 of them beaten out for hits, and 28 sacrifices. His stolen base total is 25. And he has hit 10 home runs. He ran his batting average up to .317 in June when he exhibited a 21-game hitting streak, dropped to .253 in July and during August hit at a .311 clip. His present average is .297."

*Sun. 9-21-47*

# Jackie Sparkles as First Baseman

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 3-29-47

## Gets Good Start at Bat and Afield Against Bums

PANAMA CITY—Jackie Robinson emerged as the hero for the fourth time in as many games following his installment at first base, here yesterday (Thursday).

The brilliant Montreal second baseman, shifted to the initial sack on order of Brooklyn President Branch Rickey, now looms as a serious threat to open the 1947 season as the Dodgers' regular first baseman.

Facing the Dodgers for the second time, Robinson collected three hits in four trips to the rubber, running his total number of safeties for the four games to nine. Since the transfer to first base, Jackie is batting .600 on the basis of nine hits in 15 at bats.

In the four games played at the initial sack, Robbie has accepted 47 chances with but one bobble.

Robinson made his debut at first last Wednesday night in Havana, playing with the Royals against the Havana Cubans. In that contest he secured a double and a single in three trips plateward, and handled 11 chances faultlessly. One of these was a difficult smash over the base which he converted into a putout.

**Lauded by Scout**

After the game, Clyde Sukeforth, the Dodgers' top scout of colored baseball players and Rickey's lieutenant, heaped praises on Jackie for his performance at first base. The position, he told Jackie, "seems to come easy for you."

On Sunday in Cristobal (Canal Zone), Jackie again had an errorless day afield as the Royals defeated a Panama All-Star nine. He also clouted a home-run and a single in four times at bat.

On Monday, playing in the first game of the important series with the Dodgers, Robbie contributed two of his team's six safeties and scored the lone run which gave the Royals a 1-1 tie with the parent club. Sat. 3-29-47

Roy Campanella, former Baltimore Elite Giant catcher, after belting a home run and a double to drive in three runs against an All-Star team at Cristobal Sunday, caught the full game yesterday (Thursday) as the Royals dropped a 10-3 decision to Brooklyn.

**Rickey Deadline!**

BALBOA, C. Z. — (ANP) —According to Branch Rickey, president of the Brooklyn Dodgers, midnight, April 16, has been set as the deadline for a decision as to whether Jackie Robinson will be promoted from the Montreal Royals to the Brooklyn Dodgers.

At any rate, the decision will not come before April 10, the date when the Montreal team completes a two-day exhibition tour in Brooklyn.

# Robinson Shakes Jinx in Two Week-End Games

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 6-7-47

## Pulls Out of Week-Long Slump With 3 Safeties in 6 at Bats

BROOKLYN.—Jackie Robinson, shaking the batting jinx which dogged him the early part of last week, obtained three hits in six times at bat in Saturday and Sunday games against the Boston Braves and St. Louis Cardinals, respectively, both of which Jackie and his Brooklyn teammates won.

Robinson garnered a single in the Saturday tilt as Ralph Branca, white, hurled a 5-0 shutout. He then came back on Sunday afternoon to collect two safeties in three trips plateward, aiding in the 6-1 win annexed by the Bums over the Cards. Sat. 6-7-47

The Dodger first-sacker, in addition to hitting at a .500 clip for the two games, stole two bases and tallied two runs. This latter feat enabled him to retain second place behind Johnny Mize in the run-scoring department. His base-thefts put him in a 9-9 tie with Earl Torgeson for the league lead in stealing sacks.

In the field, Jackie handled 17 chances without a bobble and figured in one double-play.

The Saturday crowd was 23,275, largest to turn out on a week-day at Braves Field since 1933. The Sunday attendance at Ebbets Field—31,409—was the largest for the season in Flatbush.

# Jackie Robinson Says:

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

By JACKIE ROBINSON

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—Next time I go to a movie and see a picture of a little ordinary girl become a great star, I'll believe it. Sat. 4-19-47

And whenever I hear my wife read fairy tales to my little boy, I'll listen.

I know now that dreams do come true.

I know because I am now playing with the Brooklyn Dodgers in the big leagues!

I always dreamed about playing for the Dodgers, but, honestly, I always had my doubts. I used to tell myself: 'Something will happen. It just isn't in the books for you to play in the majors. You're a Negro. Negroes haven't been in the big leagues. Some day they will be. But you won't be the lucky guy."

Then last Thursday, Mr. Rickey called me to his office. He said: "Jackie you're a big leaguer now. You're going to play with the Dodgers and we're announcing it to the world today."

**IN A TRANCE**

I walked out of his office in a trance. I went from there to Ebbetts Field to play my last game with Montreal against Brooklyn. I don't think I was too impressive in that last game with Montreal. But that was because, I guess, I couldn't keep my mind on the game all the time. Every time I'd look at Pee Wee Reese or Bruce Edwards, or Ed Head and the other Dodgers, I'd start thinking.

"Just think," I'd say to myself, "tomorrow I'll be with them. I'll be wearing a Brooklyn uniform. And then I'd look at the big park and realize that I would be here this year—playing in a major league park before big crowds and fighting for a pennant.

At noon Friday, I walked into the Brooklyn clubhouse. When I opened that door I walked into the major leagues, and a few minutes later I was dressing with big league players and getting ready to play against the famous Yankees.

Then we went out on the field. Gee it seemed big. Twice as big as the day before. I sat down in the Brooklyn dugout and started to think all over again. The game started and I found myself at first base. I was the Brooklyn first baseman. The day before, I had been Montreal's first baseman. "What a difference a day makes," I said to myself.

When the umpire said: "Play ball!", I finally started thinking baseball. I finally realized that I was a member of the Brooklyn Dodgers; that I had made the big leagues.

**REALIZED RESPONSIBILITY**

When I realized that, the thrill was gone. I knew that from then on I'll have to play like the very devil. So now I'm trying my best. I don't know how successful I'll be, but you can bet that I'll give my level best. I think I can do good enough job to stay up here and face such teams as the Cardinals, Pirates, Giants and the rest. I'm new and have a lot to learn, but I've found out that there are fellows on the club willing to help me. Ed Stanky, a great ball player, helped me the first day. Others have advised me and coached me since. I know by that experience that I'm not alone. I also know by the applause I've received in these first games that the public is for me and wants to see me make good. Sat. 4-19-47

I will never stop trying. I hope I'll get better and better every day and help bring a pennant and world series to Brooklyn.

Being up here is absolutely wonderful. That's why I'm a believer in fairy tales now. You see, it actually happened to me.

# Name Guilty In Robinson Strike Move

Chicago, Ill. Defender

Sat. 5-17-47

## Brooklyn, St. Louis Players Balked By President Frick

BROOKLYN—The finger of guilt in the proposed strike of the St. Louis Cardinal baseball team if the Brooklyn Dodgers used Jackie Robinson in the lineup against them in the series just concluded strongly points to two of the Dodger players.

The Chicago Defender learned that while the Brooklyn team was training in Panama and before Robinson was signed, Ed Head, veteran pitcher, and Carl Furrillo, young outfielder, contacted members of the St. Louis club and asked them if they wanted to play "against that N—— if he was made a member of the Brooklyn club."

This agitation was said to have been kept up even after Branch Rickey, president of the Dodgers, signed Robinson. Head, who later hurled a no-hit, no-run game, has been sent to the Fort Worth, Texas, club. Furrillo was called into Rickey's office. He is said to have admitted his part in the dastardly plot, and after a cussing out by Rickey, apologized and said he "had found out that Jackie was an all right guy to work with."

Dan Daniels of the New York World Telegram asks, in his sports column: "Last year at this time, the Cardinals were detoured from their pennant quest by offers from the Mexican League. Before May was out they were to lose Max Lanier, Fred Martin, and Lou Klein.

"It is significant that other Cardinals were of a mind to jump to the Mexican League where they would have played with large percentages of Negroes on every club.

"Is it possible that near-jumpers of May, 1946, were near-strikers on a Negro issue in May, 1947?"

Ford C. Frick, president of the National League, following the trip east last week by Sam Breadon, president of the St. Louis club, to confer with his team members about the proposed strike, put his thumbs down on any such action.

Said Frick: "It would be a very foolish thing for the players to do if they followed through. There would be only one recourse — indefinite suspension from baseball."

President Frick deserve high praise for his refusal to "kill" the story, brought to light by Stanley Woodward, sports editor of the New York Herald Tribune. Both Breadon and his manager, Eddie Dyer, both denied that Breadon came here to talk his players out of any such crazy notion and that the St. Louis players had no part in the proposed strike. But Frick didn't allow the matter to die a natural death. He brought it out in the open.

From a St. Louis source it has

been learned that there has been considerable anti-Robinson talk by the St. Louis club's Klansmen but the same source says that there never was any idea of an open rebellion.

**Name Moore, Marion**

In St. Louis, Harvey Caray, local sports announcer, revealed last Friday night that the two guilty St. Louis players were Terry Moore and Marty Marion.

**Firmly Behind Jackie**

"The National League will stand firmly behind Robinson," Frick said. Any such action (meaning a strike) as reported contemplated would be sheer madness . . . if they follow through, there would have been only one recourse — indefinite suspension from baseball. I don't care if it wrecks the National League for five years."

Although the matter is a National League affair, baseball fans all over the country are waiting a word from Commissioner Chandler. His office has announced that he has "no comment to make at this time." Sat. 5-17-47

Chandler did warn Ben Chapman, manager of the Philadelphia club, who abusive and references to Jackie's race were first brought to Frick's attention and Frick in turn brought it to the commissioner's attention. A memo went to the Phillies' front office ordering the vitriolic attack to cease at once and a sharp reprimand was sent to Chapman telling him that baseball had no place for such.

Oddly, baseball was evolved by Abner Doubleday, then a cadet at West Point, at Cooperstown, N. Y., in 1839. Doubleday later was a general in the Civil War, fighting on the Union side.

Baseball is supported by all races and all creeds and these fans must enjoy equal rights in the grandstands and boxes. No players can bar or attempt to bar from their ranks any player because of his race because the front office asks the financial support of all lovers of the great American pastime—regardless of his race or creed or color.

**NEW YORK—Walter Winchell, in his famous rapid-fire radio delivery Sunday night, blasted anti-Negro players on the St. Louis Cardinals ball club for their reported mutiny plot against playing opposite Jackie Robinson.** Sat. 5-17-47

**In his regular weekly broadcast May 11, Winchell declared, "Ball players who don't want to be in the same ball park with Robinson, don't belong in the same country with him!"**

BUMS RAP CARDS:

Afro-American

# Charge Spiking of Jackie Intentional

Baltimore, Md. Sat.

BROOKLYN—The Brooklyn Dodgers, in the midst of a desperate fight to hold first place in the National League pennant race, were boiling mad over the "roughing" of Jackie Robinson by the St. Louis Cardinals during the series which ended Wednesday.

Dodger players were outspoken in their contradiction of Manager Eddie Dyer, who told daily sports-writers after Wednesday's game that two spikings of Jackie were unintentional.

Said Dyer: "I've told my boys to be very careful playing this club, so that there won't be any 'incident.' Not once has Jackie had to duck a pitch thrown at him by my team. Slaughter runs hard and with his head down. It was purely an accident."

Robinson was spiked on the left foot by Joe Medwick in a play at first base in the opening game of the series, Monday. Medwick had appeared in the role of pinch-hitter in the seventh inning and was bearing down on first base in an attempt to prevent a double-play.

Sat. 8-30-47

**Medwick Retires**

He collided with Jackie and both went down. Robinson, though suffering a gash on the foot, continued in the game. Medwick retired in favor of a substitute runner.

On Wednesday afternoon, in the final game of the series, Enos Slaughter spiked the Dodger's first baseman on the right leg on a play in which he was being put out. Again Jackie continued in the game after receiving treatment from the club trainer, and indications are that he will not be lost to the team.

In each instance, the Dodger players rallied behind Jackie and threatened dire consequences "if that stuff keeps up." Brooklyn has long been known as a "roughhouse" aggregation, and bitter enmity always prevails when the Bums and the St. Louisans collide.

Robinson had been warned repeatedly by teammates prior to the two incidents, the AFRO learned. These warnings were not based on race. It wasn't because he is colored that Dodger oldtimers feared he would be the target of Cardinal thrusts. It was because he is a first-year man and more apt to become easily rattled—less apt to know how to care of himself in rough spots.

**Jackie Angered**

The old school of ball-players clings to the idea that the best way to disrupt an opposing club is to dismantle it.

Remembering these warnings, Jackie gave vent to his wrath on Dyer when the latter left the dugout to inquire about him following the spiking by Slaughter.

"Get away from me, I don't want anything to o with you," Jackie told the Cardinal boss.

"What's the matter? What happened?" Dyer wanted to know.

"You heard him,' yelled Hugh Casey, Dodger relief pitcher, "He said get away from him. Now get the hell on away from him."

Second baseman Eddie Stanky entered the discussion at this point. "Get along, Dyer," shouted the fiery little keystoner, "We'll take care of this and your ball players, too."

**Stanky Warns Him**

Turning to Robinson, Stanky said: "You've got to watch your step now. This is the money month up here. They're going to be out to get you. You've got to forget all about what went on last month and the month before. If they didn't bother you, that past. If you don't watch out now, they'll tear you apart. Everybodys got to look out for himself from here in, anybody who doesn't, it'll be just too bad for him."

Slaughter was roundly booed by the fans following the incident. Observers say the spiking looked deliberate. Sat. 8-30-47

**Wanted to "Get" Slaughter**

On the Bums' bench there were further accusations. "It was no accident, in spite of what Dyer says," one player asserted. "How in the hell could Slaughter hit him way up on the side of the leg like that unless he meant to do it?"

Jackie suffered a cut eight inches above the ankle on the outside of his right leg. He fielded the ball to his right and outraced Slaughter to the bag to make the putout unassisted.

**Jackie Talks**

"I thought I gave him plenty of room," Jackie declared, "but I guess I didn't." I had him beat by a wide margin an was ready to come off when he hit me. It may not have been intentional, I don't know. But, even so, that's part of baseball. Somebody else will get it tomorrow. I've come to learn I'm no exception."

Howere, Pitcher Ralph Branca took a different view. The big young righthander said he saw the same Slaughter take aim at Jackies heel in a play earlier in the game.

"I went over and told Jackie then that Enos had barely missed him and that I'd get him the next time he came up. But Jackie told me he didn't think Slaughter had tried to cut him. I'm sorry as hell I didn't get him like I wanted to."

# Colorful Story of the Man Who Discovered Leo Durocher, Jackie Robinson's New Boss

By DAVE EGAN

BOSTON—There is a question which millions of Americans already are, and more millions soon will be asking. This little tale, perhaps, will provide the answer to that question:

It was a warm night, late in the summer, and Leo Durocher was indulging in his favorite pastime. He was talking. He had come home to West Springfield on an open date in the schedule of the Dodgers. A baseball field had been named in his honor that afternoon. The Lions Club of West Springfield had been hosts at dinner. Now it was late in the evening of a long day, and he stood on the stage of the magnificent Springfield Auditorium . . . talking.

He told his usual stories with his usual effectiveness. He refought many an old battle with umpires up and down the league. He pronounced Pete Reiser second only to Joe DiMaggio among the outfielders in baseball. He described the scene in Brooklyn after a losing game, where only one line of withdrawal is available and that through a jeering lane of outraged fans, and he made it sound very much like the retreat from Moscow. Sat. 1-11-47

**One Man Above All Others**

A brilliant man was at his brilliant best that night in Springfield, yet it was just another sports talk to be discussed for a day and then dismissed, until Durocher did a typically daring thing. There are scores of men in the Springfield area who played ball with Durocher in the old days. There are dozens who claim the credit for having discovered him and started him on his way. At the risk of offending many a man, he spoke on:

**"A lot of people," he said, "claim the credit for discovering me, and a lot of people contributed to my career. But there was one man, above all other men, who forced me to become a ball player.**

**"I worked at the Wico Electric then, and this man worked at the same bench with me, making batteries. It was nice, steady work, and for a young fellow, I thought I was doing pretty good. But this man that worked at the bench with me, he didn't think I was doing any good at all.**

**"I'd come to work on a Monday, and he'd say to me: 'Leo, you're willin' to work all your life in a shop like this, when you could be out playin' ball for a livin'.'** Sat. 1-11-47

**"I'd come to work on a Tuesday, and he'd say to me: 'You can play better ball than most of the shortstops in that Eastern League, but you're just afraid to try.'**

**"I'd come to work on a Wednesday, and he'd say to me: 'Trouble with you, Leo, is that you just don't believe in yourself; you just haven't got the heart to give up a steady job and take a chance in baseball.'** Sat. 1-11-47

**"This went on day after day and week after week. He needled me. He nagged me. He encouraged me to believe that, some day, I'd be one of the greatest shortstops that ever lived. He challenged me to go out and prove that he was right in his judgment. And finally, to keep my self respect, I had to quit my job at the Wico and play professional baseball, because he forced me to. So come on up here, Dave," he concluded, "and shake my hand."**

**Long, Hard Road to Fame**

So Dave Redd, who now has been working at Wico Electric for a quarter of a century, walked with humble pride to the stage of the auditorium and exchanged a smile and a word and a handclasp with the man whom, years before, he had sent on the long, hard road that had led to fame.

You are saying by now that all this drivel is just a waste of space; that Dave Reed, a handy man with a needle, had pricked Durocher into an illustrious career; that Redd now can pass this clipping around to strangers, to prove that he actually was the discoverer of Lippy Leo; and so what? Nothing, except that Leo Durocher had the moral courage, on a warm night late in the summer, to offend many an old friend by naming this man as the most important individual in the shaping of his life. Nothing at all, except that Dave Redd is colored.

Yes, there is a question which millions of Americans already are, and more millions soon will be asking. This little tale, I suggest, provides the answer to that question. Already there are writers in Montreal, and writers in New York, and writers the nation over who are asking whether or not Jackie Robinson will be given a fair chance to become the first colored player ever to play in the major leagues. Sat. 1-11-47

His manager, by a magnificent coincidence, will be Leo Durocher, who many years ago borrowed $50 from Dave Redd in order that he might finance a tryout with the Hartford club of the Eastern League; who last summer deeply moved a Springfield audience by summoning to the stage of the auditorium this humble black man; who next spring will judge Jackie Robinson on the basis of ability alone.

# Jackie Robinson Finally Gets His Chance

PM New York, N.Y. Fri. 4-11-47

Dixie Walker, a Southerner, is nipped at first by the Montreal Royals as Jackie Robinson, Negro, makes the putout. Today both will be on the same club as Jackie dons the uniform of the Dodgers, first Negro in the modern history of the game to play in the majors. *Associated Press Photos*

## Tom Meany:

PM New York, N.Y.

### Robbie Will Find It Rough in NL

Fri. 4-11-47

Jackie Roosevelt Robinson, a Negro, has been signed by the Brooklyn Dodgers. This marks the first time one of his race has been on a major league payroll without benefit of subterfuge.

There was no other decision Branch Rickey could make. He signed the infielder (there are those who say he "stole" him) from a Negro league in the fall of 1945 and assigned his contract to Montreal. Robbie led the International League in hitting and in general comported himself like a genuine major league prospect.

When Robinson was in training in Cuba with the Royals this Spring, the question was asked every hour on the hour if he would be promoted to the parent club. Rickey said a decision would be made before opening day, but never indicated what that decision would be. It was announced at Ebbets Field yesterday almost immediately after Robinson, a superlative bunter, had foozled a bunt and popped into a double play.

***All Agree Jackie Deserves Chance***

Those who have watched Robinson play aren't unanimous in agreeing that he is a major leaguer, but all agree that he has shown enough to warrant the chance. This is it. Currently, he has been playing first base, although second is his normal position. Where he will play with the Dodgers depends upon the still to-be-named successor to the banned Leo Durocher.

There were a considerable number of Negroes among the 14,282 cash customers at yesterday's exhibition between the Royals and the Dodgers and they cheered Robbie immoderately on his every appearance, which perhaps was only natural. What was not natural, however, was the booing of Dixie Walker, the Flatbush favorite, every time Dixie came to bat.

The booing of Walker, something which never occurred in Brooklyn before, was seemingly due to remarks attributed to Dixie at the time Robinson was first signed to a Montreal contract. It was reported on all sides that Walker had said that he would not play on the same team with Robinson.

What Dixie actually said, and I took the trouble to check with him yesterday after he had been booed, was that Robinson had been signed to a Montreal contract and therefore was "not on my club, so I don't see why I should make any comment on him."

After last season, Robinson told me that his biggest handicap in his first season of organized ball was fans of his own race who cheered him every time he made an ordinary play. He wanted fans of his own race to treat him as just another ball player, which is precisely the way he hopes other fans and other players will come to treat him in time.

***Bigots Can Make Things Unpleasant***

PM New York, N.Y.

Robinson will have a rough time of it in the National League, rougher perhaps than he had in the International League. There are still enough bigots around to make it unpleasant for Jackie and it would be unfortunate if fans of Robbie's own race were to give the hard heads ammunition by booing other members of his team. Fri.

Branch Rickey held an extensive press conference after game, in which he revealed that Durocher had been in favor of adding Robinson to the Brooklyn roster after the exhibitions in Panama.

All three coaches, Clyde Sukeforth, Jake Pitler and Ray Blades, were of the same opinion.

Rickey said Robinson was "coming up as a ball player." It is to be sincerely hoped that the fans, both of his own race and others, regard him precisely in that light and not as a freak to be exploited or discriminated against, but to be judged entirely on his merits and on his sportsmanship. 4-11-47

Jackie made a loud debut last year with a homer and three singles for Montreal against Jersey City. Jackie will have to make the grade the hard way. Brilliant at second base last year, he will be posted at first, a position of which he knows little. Two other Negroes preceded him in organized baseball before 1900. Moses Walker caught for Toledo of the American Assn., then a major league, in 1884 and George Stovey pitched for Newark of the International in 1887.

At Havana training camp, Jackie studies Brooklyn roster, but finds no "Robinson." He had to prove worth against Dodgers, not with them.

# 'Will Bring Jackie Up'

*Daily Worker*
*New York, N.Y.*

## DODGERS-ROYALS TODAY

*Thurs. 4-10-47*

With all attention focused on the bombshell of Durocher's dismissal yesterday, the fact that the opening exhibition game between the daddy team and the Montreal Royals was postponed because of rain almost escaped attention.

The two clubs will meet today in a single game at 2 p.m., with Jackie Robinson on first for Montreal and still the subject of much speculation.

Before the Dodgers broke camp and moved north Branch Rickey did make some decided, positive statements on Robby. Here is the result:

**Three men will compete for first base. They are Ed Stevens, who has been hitting poorly; Howie Schultz, who has been hitting not at all, and Jackie Robinson, whose hitting fell off following his illness, but who needs no recommendation to Rickey.**

Robbie's status was clarified greatly by the Dodger chieftain before the team moved north. Everyone knows that he can play a peerless second base. Everyone knows he can fill third with grace and ease. And he can play first, a totally new position to him, acceptably.

Rickey said: **"The Robinson case will be closed by midnight on April 16, after a bull session with the coaches and Leo, at which time I will state my point of view."** This means that Rickey wants the board of strategy to agree unanimously that Robby is to play first for the Dodgers. If no such unanimity is forthcoming, he, in his position as boss, will cast the deciding vote. He further clarified the situation by adding: *Daily Worker*

**"I at no time have failed to consider Robinson as a member of the Dodgers. It has always been my intention to bring him up the whole way."** *New York, N.Y.*

In other words, the gossips, who whispered that Rickey was seeking an "out" were answered. And it became plain that Rickey is continuing to follow a pre-arranged schedule, not transferring Robby to Brooklyn until the team hits Ebbets Field. That he will, no one has any doubt at this time.

**Furthermore, if the strategy board disagrees, Robby will come up anyway either as utility infielder, prepared to step into Arkie Vaughan's third base shoes or Eddie Stanky's second base brogans. At present, with Pee Wee Reese at**

**short, this trio completes the Dodger infield.** *4-10-47*

Among reserves, Eddie Miksis has made the grade as utility shortstop. Stan Rojek's future is uncertain, but he will almost certainly be traded by May 15.

The outfield picture is less clear. Dixie Walker has looked very bad this spring, but then Dixie is Dixie. But whether he will open in right field is doubtful. For the Dodgers now have in Duke Snider a 20-year-old kid who Durocher believes may be another Ted Williams. The Duke is impressive—he hits with terrific wrist action, is fast and fields like a bird-hawk fly-snatcher.

**Pete Reiser began to play last week, but has not yet begun to hit. He'll be at center, however, as the real games begin. In left field will be Gene Hermanski, who has come up quickly. The reserves include Dick Whitman and Carl Furillo.**

Bruce Edwards has looked great and is the No. 1 catcher, with Bobby Bragan sure to be held.

The pitching staff is overloaded. Indeed, all hands are perplexed as to how to cut down the list to the final 10. Both Higbe and Hatten have gone nine innings and are ready to open. Hal Gregg is the No. 3 man, as last year, and Vic Lombardi is still the clever little lefthander. *Thurs.*

Behind them are scads of fine hurlers of whom Larry Taylor, who struck out six Royals in three innings, is tops. *4-10-47*

**As a P.S. on Robinson, an impromptu poll is reported to have shown that a majority of Dodgers are prepared to hail him as a teammate.**

# The Worker Called Turn on Jack

*The Worker New York, N.Y.*

**FROM PERSONAL BUT NOT PRIVATE** Dave Farrell's column from Los Angeles, California, in the Daily Worker Oct. 4, 1939:

**"Of the many fine Negro ball players I've seen in recent years Jackie Robinson strikes me as having the best chance to cut the buck in organized ball. Right now he's qualified to play in AA ball and some slight seasoning I'm sure he can make it "up there."** *Sun. 4-20-47*

"Having watched him play ever since he was a member of the Pasadena Merchants, a semi-pro team that carried Jimmy Dykes' White Sox to a 3-2 eleven inning affair, I can say with no shame whatsoever that he's a corking fielder, a darned good hitter and a helluva guy with a bunt. But it isn't until you've seen him on the bases that you realize what a tootsie he is. His extraordinary speed will drive pitchers crazy and balk them to death. For don't forget that in addition to his baseball, football and basketball prowess, Jackie is a great sprinter and the IC4A broad jump champ." *4-20-47*

# In this Corner

*Daily Worker*
*New York, N.Y.*
*Wed. 4-16-47*

## There's No Arguing With This Ump

**By Bill Mardo**

YAWNING GAPS, and that isn't some jerkwater town in Montana, were visible through the entire leftfield stands at Ebbets Field yesterday. Pretty surprising for Opening Day—especially in Brooklyn. Which caused the writer to ask the oldtimer seated alongside him in the press pen: "Do you think the attendance boom is beginning to level off?"

He rubbed a ruddy cheek, chuckled, and said: "Well, it wouldn't be reasonable to expect the crowds to hit what they did last year. Yes, I believe attendance will drop off a bit. When you get to be my age, you'll see that these things fall into a regular pattern. One year the gate goes up, next year it slackens, then after that it goes up a little higher—in other words, there's a gradual climb in attendance over the years. It never goes back as low as it was the year before."

**Bill Klem, the grand old man of the umpiring profession, was talking. And I guess he's seen enough baseball crowds to know, eh? Retired now, but Bill's like an old firehorse and he couldn't have stayed away Opening Day. No, he recalled, yesterday wasn't the first time he saw a Negro play big league baseball. "Back in '88 there was a colored shortstop named Grant who played with Buffalo of the old National League. He was very good, too." Somebody asked Klem if there was ever any "trouble" or "incidents" because of the Negro player. "Trouble?" Klem snorted, slightly on the incredulous side. "There was no trouble that I remember. Nobody thought too much about Grant being a Negro. He was just another ballplayer."**

* * *

**IT WAS** pleasant sitting with Klem, generally recognized the dean of major league arbiters. He was full of stories. For example, when I asked him how he picked the clubs to finish this year, he smiled sheepishly and bent his head close to mine: "I've never made any picks in all my life. I just umpire that ball."

And then he reminisced about another Opening Day in Brooklyn 10 years ago. Leaving his hotel for the ballpark that morning, somebody asked him who he liked. Klem snapped: "Who do I like? Listen, mister, I don't even know who's playing the Dodgers today!" Klem roared happily over that one and whispered in mock confidence: "All I hadda do in those days was tell people that I figured one particular team to beat the other—why every phony in town would've tried to make me. Nossir, umpires don't pick 'em," he echoed, "they just umpire that ball." *Daily Worker*

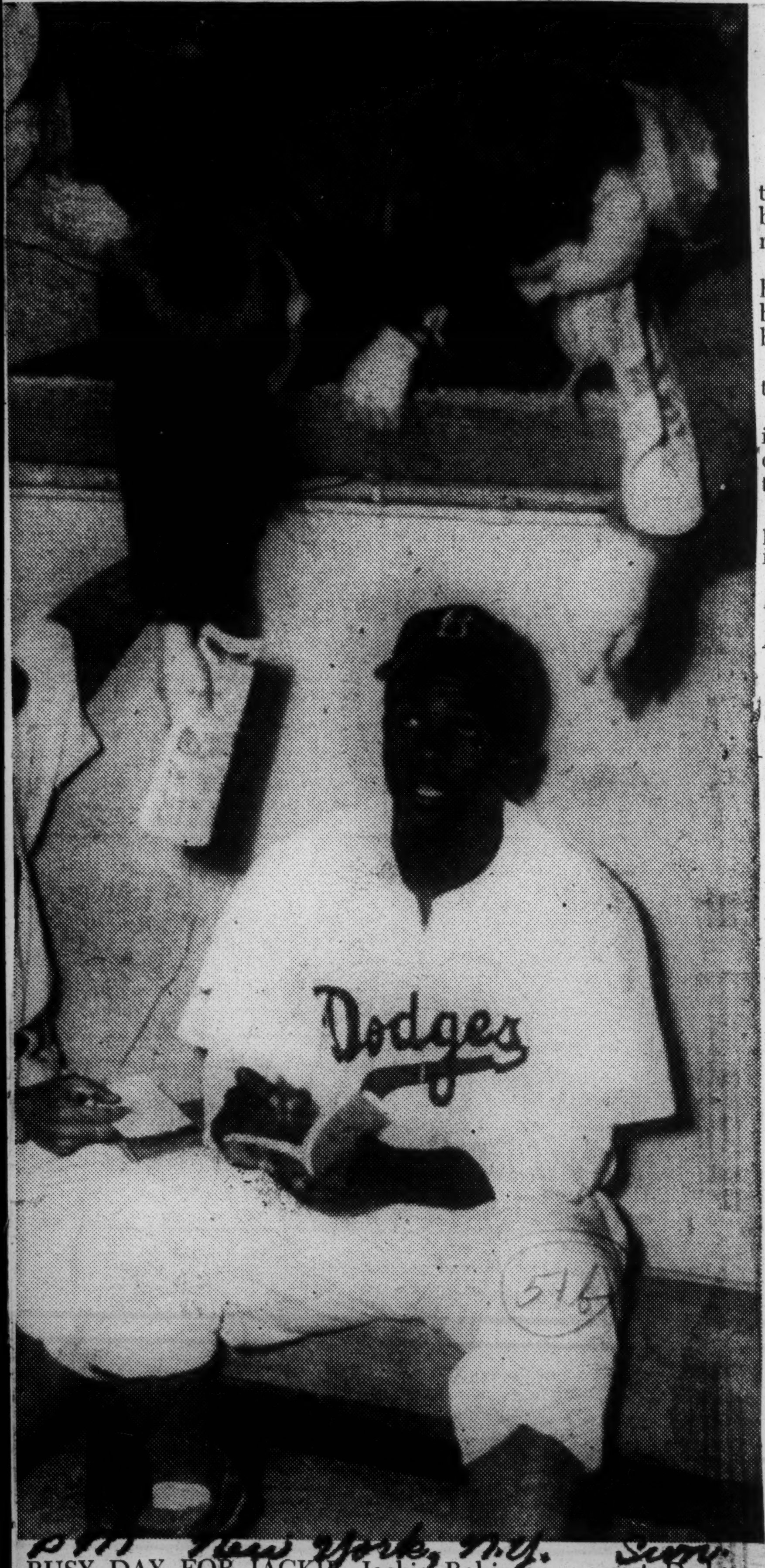
Well, then, if Klem couldn't pick the clubs even though he's retired from the game, how about the boys in blue. Whom would he pick as the best umpires the game has ever had? The guy who was the greatest of 'em all pointed a finger down at the Ebbets Field diamond. "There's three of the best down there now—Pinelli, Barlick and Gore. I'd say there were never any better than them. Watch the way they work—move with every pitch before the ball gets to the plate. That's what you call getting ahead of every play." Just then, the man behind the batter jerked his head instinctively to get a better view of the pitch as it came whistling plateward. "That's how to do it," Klem grinned. "The umpire who just stands up there motionless, hands on his chest, he's no good. He's sleeping."

* * *

**THE OLDTIMER** continued: "You can tell the way a man talks whether or not he'd make a good umpire. **He's gotta have snap** and confidence. Some years ago I got sick **and couldn't make the** trip to Philadelphia. **Ford Frick sent my replacement over to the** hotel to speak to me before he left for Philly. **Frick called me later** and asked what I thought of the man. I told him, 'Look, I've never seen that fellow work, but I can tell from the way he speaks that he's the finest umpire prospect the National League has had in years!'" Klem tapped me on the arm: "That rookie umpire was Barlick." *New York, N.Y. Wed. 4-16-47*

The man along the third base line yesterday, Arthur Gore, is another Klem discovery. "I signed him up for one of the schools some years ago and he's just finished three years of work in the International League. He's tops now. Look at him work, on the ball every inch of the way. He came to me this morning and I told him whatever he did in the minors is behind the boards now. He's in the big leagues and he's got to come through all over again."

Like the old warhorse that he is, Klem itched around in his seat, nudged my arm again and sighed. "Look at Gore work, willya. Hasn't made a wrong move. Yeah, he's an umpire all right."



*PM New York, N.Y. Sun.*

BUSY DAY FOR JACKIE—Jackie Robinson, newest Dodger, had never an idle moment as he took care of all the autograph hunters who swarmed on the Dodger bench. And Jackie had a good day against the Yanks, driving in three runs without getting a hit, a good trick when you can do it. *4-13-47*

# I'm Telling You...

By HEYWOOD HALE BROUN *PM New York, N.Y.*

One of the oddest things about the training season now closing is that Branch Rickey, the apostle of thrift, took a tremendous financial beating while Larry MacPhail, widely known as a spendthrift, will return with a satchel containing a little over $75,000 in profits.

The problems faced by the two impresarios were strikingly alike, however. Each team was in desperate need of a first baseman, a third baseman, a topline pitcher and an outfielder who could play part-time behind a star not expected to go 154 games.

Neither set of problems has been completely solved as yet, but there are elements of hope in each case. *Tues. 4-8-47*

Taking the Yankees first, the brightest part of their Spring picture is the pitching staff. Last season the New Yorkers had only two pitchers on whom they could depend, Spud Chandler and Bill Bevens, and in the late weeks of the season Chandler tired badly.

Ready to go this Summer are five solid starters, the above named pair, Allie Reynolds, Don Johnson, and Randy Gumpert. Close behind is Frank Shea, up from Oakland.

## Don Johnson Has Poise, Impresses Most Observers

Johnson, a rookie from Newark, has impressed every one with his steadiness. He has excellent stuff, control and calm to go with it. Gumpert, a spot pitcher last year, looks ready to go in turn, and Reynolds may be the biggest bargain MacPhail ever got. Last year, he won 11, lost 15 for the Indians. As second string to Bob Feller, he was usually the man who faced such aces as Newhouser and Chandler. This season he may not be under such pressure.

The third base problem is conditionally solved by Bobby Brown, the first base problem by Tommy Henrich. Brown, although he looks ready, is a question mark in his first season and Henrich may be too valuable in the outfield. *Tues. 4-8-47*

The biggest problem of all, of course, is the big man now shuffling around St. Petersburg in moccasins, Joe DiMaggio. If he is ready before June, I think the Yanks can win it all. Yogi Berra can take up some of the slack between now and then, but DiMag is as much to the Yanks now as Babe Ruth once was.

The Dodgers have an answer to either their first or third base problems in Jackie Robinson, but it is possible that they will refuse to accept this solution.

The observation of almost everyone who has seen Robbie play this Spring is that he has the stuff to be a first-class big league ball player at either position. His bunting is so perfect he can hit .300 without getting the ball out of the infield. Many have said that he can't bunt his way through the big leagues, because infielders will play him too close. With his perfect co-ordination, however, he doesn't go into bunting position until the last split second before the ball crosses the plate, and those who begin creeping in on him may be discouraged by line drives in the eye.

## Prejudice Cause of It All If Robbie Is Shipped Back

If he goes back to Montreal it will be because prejudice overcame his chances. On his record in games this Spring, in which he has been hitting close to .500, and on his league-leading average in the International League last year, he deserves a thorough trial.

The solutions to first and third other than Robinson are dubious. Arky Vaughan has been away from baseball for three years. He may be able to pull his weight at bat, but his fielding may not withstand the late season strain, and with the Cardinals in the league, anybody who wants to take the pennant away from them must be driving every day.

At first base, Howard Schultz and Ed Stevens have been tried and found wanting. Schultz is young enough and smart enough to have a chance of improving, and Stevens, too, has not had a long enough trial to be pronounced hopeless, but neither looks now like the first baseman

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*New York, N.Y.*

for a pennant winner.

Pete Reiser seems ready to go, which will be a big help, and Whitman, Hermanski and possibly Tom Tatum, up from Montreal, should be able to fill in acceptably when Dixie Walker is in need of rest.

The pitching staff will be stronger with promising rookies like Paul Minner, Harry Taylor, Johnny Van Cuyk and Ed Chandler on hand, but it lacks a predictable 20-game winner.

However, the Dodgers didn't look too well on paper last year and they almost made it. *Tues. 4-8-47*

The selections below are not the careful conclusions of an expert, but the choices of a chronic longshot player who tries to catch lightning in a bottle.

| National League | American League |
|---|---|
| Dodgers | Yankees |
| Cardinals | Red Sox |
| Braves | Tigers |
| Cubs | Indians |
| Pirates | White Sox |
| Phils | Senators |
| Giants | Browns |
| Reds | Athletics (Best bet) |

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# In This Corner

*Daily Worker New York, N.Y.*

## 'Twas Quite a Ballgame At Ebbets Field

*Mon. 4-14-47*

By Bill Mardo

SUNDAY AT Ebbets Field has always been a wonderful thing win, lose or draw. You know what I mean. Yesterday it was extra nice—and I don't mean that 10-9 Yank victory.

•

They've got something there at Ebbets Field. Something no other big league ballpark owns. The right to sing the Star Spangled Banner and look anyone in the world right in the eye. Because in one ballpark out of 16 the National Anthem sung before the start of our National Pastime truly means national, American, double-check democracy.

I won't ever bring this up again so far as Brooklyn is concerned . . . because Jackie Robinson is rapidly becoming just another name in the lineup and that's as it should be. But yesterday was the first Sunday that a Negro athlete played in a major league ballpark wear-

ing the uniform of a major league team.

**PEEWEE REESE'S name announced in the lineup for his initial start since that ankle injury benched him, drew the kind of ovation one has come to expect for an amazing athlete who has long since carved a special niche in the hearts of his homefield fans. Slimmer than he was last season, the mite of a dazzler got that big hand all over again in the third inning when he hotfooted back to short center to scoop up Don Johnson's line single on a hop. He's a heady kid that Reese. Because he got there just in time to discourage Petey Reiser from trying for one of those headlong shoetop catches which often send a guy into the hospital if he misses. Reiser tried it on Thursday, went skidding on his nose and everyone in the park stopped breathing for a minute until Petey picked himself up,**

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**THE LITTLE** lefthander who answers to the handle of Vic Lombardi just didn't have it yesterday. That wonderful breakaway curve of his was breaking all right, right into the meat-end of the Yankee bats in the third frame. Five runs came across before he was yanked in favor of Harry Taylor. *Daily Worker*

That was also the inning Don Johnson was yanked—for different reasons. He pulled a muscle in his right leg running into second base and when he rounded into third on the next Yankee bingle he was waved into the dugout as Allie Reynolds went in to run for him.

**The rookie righthander looked as good as they say he is, for the two innings he worked. Jackie Robinson's line single into the rightfield corner in the first inning was the only hit off Johnson. Bucky Harris' pride and joy from Kansas has an awfully smart assortment of stuff, getting five of the six Dodgers who faced him out on ground balls, while Ed Stanky took a called third strike.**

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**When Jacki. Robinson showed signs of shedding his understandable nervousness with his first hit two days ago, the Dodger board of strategy wisely moved him up from the number six slot in the batting order to behind leadoff man Stanky. Old Arky Vaughn went down to Robbie's spot in the teeoff order.**

With the tested ability of Stanky and Robinson to get on base, the Brooks now have an awesome one-two threat right at the start.

As reliefer Renaldo Ardioza found out much to his grief in the third. A mess of walks, interspersed with Jackie Robinson's run-producing grounder gave Brooklyn two runs with which to creep back into the ballgame. *New York, N.Y.*

**HARRY TAYLOR**, the St. Paul alumnite, set the Bombers down in order to start off the fourth. . . . But his prototype for the Yanks, Tommy Byrne, got right in trouble at the start of the bottom half of that inning. Cookie Lavagetto batted for Vaughn and led off with a walk. Ditto Reese and Edwards. None out and as Red Barber coined it, an f.o.b. situation, the bases full of Brooklyns. Harry Taylor became the first out—and that brought up Stanky, with Robinson on deck. The Dodger second sacker fanned for two out, and it was up to Jackie. Bases full, two gone . . . and Robbie bought a walk, bringing in the third Dodger tally. Reiser ended the threat with a lofting popup to short center. *Mon. 4-14-47*

New York was still leading but we were coming on, men. . . .

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**WITH MEN on first and second, one out and trailing 6-3, the Flock threatened again in the sixth. But Jackie Robinson worked a 3-2 count and was fooled on a slow ball which trickled over the outside corner for a third strike. Art Tatum popped up to short right and that was that.**

The Dodgers exploded with a three-run outburst in the next inning. Furillo walked, Lavagetto singled and Stan Rojek unloaded a long triple to center. Bruce Edwards singled to right and the Bums were even, 6 all. Pinchhitter Gil Hodges grounded out, with Edwards moving on to second. Two gone and Stanky up. He grounded out to bring down the curtain on that oldfashioned Flock rally. Stanky, by the bye, is having a hard time buying a hit.

Robinson led off the eighth with a long curving liner to left which was caught by Keller at his shoestrings. Tatum then singled, Woyt struck out, Carl Furillo lashed a sharp single through the middle and ol' Cookie Lavagetto brought the crowd to its feet by actually driving a slow ball into the lower left field seats for a three-run circuit clout.

**Dodgers 9, Yankees 6.**

Ah yes, a great afternoon.

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**THE YANKS** came back in oldtime style. They loaded the bags with two out in the ninth, and Lindell walked to bring in the Bronxites' seventh tally. Billy Johnson blasted a long double to center and went to third as three Yanks crossed the plate to put the Harris hordes ahead again, 10-9.

Oh dearie me.

**ROBINSON HAD a chance to be the day's hero in the bottom of the ninth. Edwards singled to start it off and King forced him at second. A wild pitch put the Brook hurler on second as Stanky then took a third called strike. Two out . . . Jackie up . . . but it was no soap as he popped up behind the plate.**

**Quite a ballgame, friends—even if we did lose.** *4-14-47*

# History Made as Ball Season Nears Start

*PM New York, N.Y.*
*Sun. 4-13-47*

When the Nation's number one southpaw, President Harry Truman, throws out the first ball of the 1947 major league season in the Yankee-Senator inaugural at Griffith Stadium Monday, it will mark the opening of a baseball year that probably will go down as one of the most significant in the game's history.

Irrespective of what the ball players do on the diamonds, 1947 will be remembered as the year in which the unpredictable Brooklyn Dodgers were the center of two historic attractions.

Branch Rickey's momentous smashing of the color line in baseball by his signing of Jackie Robinson to a Brooklyn contract, followed by a day the one-year suspension handed Leo Durocher by Commissioner Happy Chandler for "conduct detrimental to baseball."

If the Dodgers don't do another thing all year, they still will have made their mark on baseball for 1947. And there are those who think the Dodgers won't do another thing without Durocher.

For many of the present crop of ball players 1947 will mark the beginning of social security in their profession, since this year will see the inauguration of the game's new pension system.

The plan, which calls for contributions from players and management, will provide a minimum of $50 a month for any player who stayed at least five years when he reaches 50. The amount of the pension increases with length of service.

As the clubs get ready to play for keeps, the consensus is that the Red Sox and the Cardinals are again the teams to beat. The Cardinals look even better this year than they did last when the Dodgers forced them into a post-season playoff for the pennant.

What the Durocherless and Dresenless Dorgers will do in 1947 is hard to tell. They have the right combination of veterans and youth to make a fight but at this point that seems to be very best they con do agains a solid, resourceful Cardinal team. *PM New York, N.Y.*

The Yankees of 1947 will go as DiMaggio and the pitching staff go. Right now the Yanks' staff looks hot with Chandler, Bevens, Reynolds, Johnson, Page, and Shea having turned in excellent performances in the Spring exhibitions.

If they can continue the pace and if DiMaggio has a big year, the Sox might catch trouble from the Yanks, although the experts figure the Tigers will be tougher to beat because of their pitching staff. But, ask some of the boys, who's going to drive them in for the Tigers, now that big Hank Greenberg will be aiming for the fences at Pittsburgh's refurbished ball park?

The Giants will take the field Tuesday with their new orange and black colors (the victory colors of '33) but aside from bringing up a few promising rookies who may inject some fighting spirit into the club, the Giants still look like second division stuff. *Sun. 4-13-47*

# Innovations Make Baseball History As Big League Play Opens Monday

*The Constitution Atlanta, Ga.*
*Sun. 4-13-47*

By GAYLE TALBOT

NEW YORK, April 12—(AP)—An important hunk of baseball history, from which will date the entrance of the American Negro into the big leagues and the inauguration of a pension plan to protect over-age players, will be written in the 1947 campaign opening tomorrow at Washington.

Commissioner A. B. (Happy) Chandler having tossed out the first manager, President Harry Truman, a southpaw, will open the playing season proper when he cranks up and heaves out the traditional "first ball" to set the Washington Senators and New York Yankees going in the Capital.

As customary, that will be tomorrow's only contest. The remaining 14 clubs in the two major leagues will stand by impatiently to open general hostilities on Tuesday. For a number of reasons, the coming campaign promises to be one of the most colorful and interesting on record.

After months of conjecture, Jackie Robinson, a swift Negro who led the International League in batting last year, has been signed to a Brooklyn contract and is expected to appear in the Dodger lineup against the Boston Braves at Brooklyn on Tuesday.

Never before, since the modern National and American Leagues were organized, has a Negro appeared in a big league uniform.

Also, if Robinson can stick in the big show for five years he will become eligible, under the new pension plan, to draw $50 monthly upon retirement. The pension fund, to which players and clubs subscribe, provides for increased payments depending upon length of service after the fifth year. *Sun.*

The nation's experts almost unanimously have picked the St. Louis Cardinals and the Boston Red Sox to repeat their triumphs of last year in the National and American Leagues, respectively, and to stage a renewal of their dramatic World Series struggle.

Two clubs in the American and three in the National start out bright and fresh with new managers. Muddy Ruel left a soft job as Chandler's assistant to strawboss the rebuilding of the St. Louis Browns, and Bucky Harris reluctantly got back in uniform to pilot the Yankees. *4-13-47*

In the National, Billy Herman has succeeded Frankie Frisch at the Pittsburgh helm and Johnny Neun, former Yankee coach, has taken over the unenviable job of trying to boost Cincinnati out of the second division.

The general expectation is that the big leagues will return this year to their prewar class.

Let 'er go, Mr. President.

# Jackie Robinson May Open At First For Brooklyn Dodgers

*Advertiser ★ 3-31-47-Mon.*

## Negro Star Looks Best Of Six Candidates

*Montgomery, Ala. ★*

By JACK HAND

HAVANA, March 30.—(AP)—Jackie Robinson, the first Negro to break into modern organized baseball, may open the season at first base for the Brooklyn Dodgers. *Advertiser*

Still the property of the Montreal farm club where he led the International League with a .349 average last year, Robinson remains a "no comment" case among Dodger officials. Neither President Branch Rickey nor Manager Leo Durocher has anything to say for the records but there is an enthusiastic undercurrent of opinion in camp booming Jackie as the answer to the Brooks' first base problem.

Rickey's leaving the matter up to Durocher and Durocher is leaving it up to Robinson on a "show me" basis. So far Robinson has been showing plenty. He has collected six hits in 11 at bats for .545 but presently he is bothered by a sudden attack of colitis which might upset all calculations. *3-31-47-Mon*

An important Brooklyn scout lists him as "terrific" and says "he's at much as home on first as if he had been playing the bag all his life." Yet he has played first only 10 days.

This may be a little over enthusiastic for Robinson is a bit bewildered by some of the inner strategy of playing first. After all, he always played shortstop in the Negro league, was made over into a second baseman in 1946 and now is called upon to try another position.

Brooklyn has five other first baseman including Howie Schultz and Ed Stevens who spilt the job last season. John Douglas, up from St. Paul with a .307 average and Jack Paepke and Lou Rucvser from Fort Worth have been the competition. To date, none of the five has been setting the camp on fire.

Rickey explained his failure to advance Robinson from Montreal last Winter, when most of the farm players were moved up, as a strategical move. He pointed out that Jackie was not subject to the baseball draft but admitted that he really wanted Durocher and the Dodger players to demand his advance on the basis of what they would see this Spring. *Montgomery*

Durocher missed the two games Robinson played against the Dodgers and couldn't have been impressed by Jackie Saturday night when he was bothered by an aching back and an upset stomach. However Leo has been filled in on all details and is very much alive to all the possibilities.

Clay Hopper, who manages Montreal, thinks Robinson is a big league player if he has shown any improvement whatsoever over last year. He does admit, however, that he will play the boy on second base if he is not taken up by Brooklyn.

At 28, Robinson realizes he does not have much time to spend in the minors if he is to reach his major league goal. With a wife and child to support, the boy could be excused from being impatient.

"Sure, I guess I'm a little discouraged," Jackie said, "it's only natural when so many other fellows moved up from the same club. I've been showing them everything I've got. That's all I can do. *Advertiser*

"I can't tell yet about big league pitching but I do know one thing. Several colored players can play ball as high as the International League without a doubt." *3-31-47-M*

As there have been reports that some of the Dodgers might resent having Robinson on the club, the Negro athlete was asked about the reaction by his Montreal mates. *Montgomery, Ala.*

"I had no trouble at all," he said, "there was just one player on the club who rode me a little hard but not too much. On the road, they were fine. In Syracuse they got on me pretty good but that didn't bother me. They used to do that at UCLA when I was playing football."

The Robinson story probably will go right down to the wire without a decision until the Dodgers get back to Brooklyn for exhibitions with Montreal April 9-10. By that time the Brooks will have seen Robby in 11 games.

# 'JACKIE BEST IN 30 YEARS,' —I.L. PREXY

*Daily Worker — New York, N.Y. — Wed. 3-5-47* 51b

Here's what Frank Shaugnessy, president of the International League, has to say in answer to a question on how he rated Jackie Robinson, Negro star who led the I.L. in batting:

**"Robinson is the best minor league prospect I've seen in the last 30 years. He already does the things the oldtimers like Jack Barry, Eddie Collins and the others did in their prime. He makes very few mistakes in the field. I'm not sure of him at third base, but Eddie Stanky and any other candidate for the keystone sack will have a tough job keeping the second base job on the Dodgers from Robinson."**

# Jackie Plays First As Bums Trounce Yanks

*The News — Birmingham, Ala. — Sat. 4-12-47*

BROOKLYN, April 12 (AP) — Jackie Robinson's debut in a major league uniform wasn't as auspicious as his initial appearance in organized baseball last year but the Negro infielder of the Brooklyn Dodgers handled himself as well as could be expected under the circumstances.

Playing first base yesterday, the Dodger speed merchant failed to hit safely in four official trips to the plate but drove in three runs on two fly balls and a fielder's choice as the Dodgers swamped the New York Yankees, 14-6 at Ebbets Field.

In two of his trips to the plate, the former U. C. L. A. all-around athlete who enjoyed a field day at the plate when his Montreal team trounced Jersey City in their 1946 International League opener, flied out deep to left and lined to center.

His play in the field was flawless as he handled 15 chances during the nine-inning game with ease.

Clyde Sukeforth, manager protem of the Dodgers, said before the game that he plans to give Robinson a thorough trial at first base. "If he fails to make it, he will be used in a utility role at either second, short or third. I am satisfied he can play any infield position."

Robinson played second base for the Royals last season, led the Triple A circuit in batting and paced the second sackers in fielding. *The News*

Ordered to switch to first during the Royals' Spring training season because Ed Stanky of the Dodgers couldn't be dislodged from his keystone post, Robinson impressed observers with his play around the initial sack. *Birmingham*

After yesterday's game, Sukeforth said he purposely let the Negro flash go the route "because I want him to get the feel of playing in the big leagues." *4-12-47*

### BUMS ROUT YANKS

| NEW YORK (AL) | ab. | r. | h. | o. | a. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rizzuto,ss | 5 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 3 |
| S'weiss,2b | 5 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| 'Quinn,1b | 5 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| Keller,lf | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Berra,rf | 5 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Lindell,cf | 4 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 0 |
| Johnson,3b | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Houk,c | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Russo,p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Murphy,p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| aHenrich | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| S.C'dler,p | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Bevens,p | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| A.R'son,c | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Totals | 37 | 6 | 9 | 24 | 11 |

| BROOKLYN (NL) | ab. | r. | h. | o. | a. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stanky,2b | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| Rojek,3b | 5 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Reiser,cf | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Furillo,cf | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Walker,rf | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Tatum,rf | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Snider:rf | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| H'manski,lf | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Woyt,lf | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| J.R'inson,1b | 4 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| Miksis,ss | 5 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 5 |
| Edwards,c | 5 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 0 |
| Hatten,p | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Head,p | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| E. C'dler,p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 38 | 14 | 16 | 27 | 13 |

aStruck out for Murphy in sixth.

Score by innings:
New York (AL) ..........010 0 2 0 201—6
Brooklyn (NL) ..........201 0(11)0 00x—14

SUMMARY — Errors, Hatten, Rojek, Rizzuto 2, Murphy, S. Chandler 2. Runs batted in, Hermanski 2, W. Johnson, J. Robinson 2, Keller 2, Woyt 2, Edwards, Head, Rojek, Furillo 2, Lindell 2. Two base hits, Hermanski, Rojek, Woyt, Edwards. Three base hit, Lindell. Home run, Lindell. Sacrifices, J. Robinson, E. Chandler. Double plays, Stirnweiss to Rizzuto to McQuinn; A. Robinson to Stirnweiss; Stanky to Miksis to J. Robinson; S. Chandler to Rizzuto to McQuinn; Rizzuto to Stirnweiss to McQuinn. Left on bases, New York (AL) 8, Brooklyn (NL) 8. Bases on balls, off Hatten 1, off Bevens 2, off Russo 4, off Head 3, off S. Chandler 1. Struck out, by Russo 1, by Head 3, by S. Chandler 1, by E. Chandler 2. Hits, off Bevens, 6 in 3 innings; off Russo, 2 in 1 1-3 innings; off Murphy, 4 in 2-3 inning; off S. Chandler, 4 in 3 innings; off Hatten, 2 in 3 innings; off Head, 6 in 4 innings; off E. Chandler, 1 in 2 innings. Wild pitch, E. Chandler. Passed ball, Edwards. Winning pitcher, Head. Losing pitcher, Russo. Umpires, Goetz and Grieve. Time of game. 2:25. Attendance, 24,237.

# J. ROBINSON, BALLPLAYER

*The Times*

In this morning's newspapers the box score of the exhibition game yesterday at Ebbets Field between the Brooklyn Dodgers and the New York Yankees carries the above name in the Brooklyn line-up. If Robinson had been a white man the name would have been there long before this, for he was the prize rookie last year of the Montreal Club, of the International League, which is owned by the Dodgers. He led the league in hitting, in base-stealing, in runs scored, in second-base play. *Sat. 4-12-47*

Robinson's elevation to the major league parent club should have been almost automatic, but the color line has always been drawn in modern baseball. No major league owner had the moral courage to break down the barrier until Branch Rickey, the Brooklyn president, signed the Negro player to a contract. For that action Mr. Rickey is to be congratulated. *New York, N.Y.*

It is the expressed wish of Robinson that he be judged strictly as a ballplayer. This must also be the hope of all those who believe that the principle of no discrimination because of race or religion is one of the finest attributes of what we like to call Americanism. It also is Robinson's expressed wish that fans of his own race not single him out for special applause. Negroes will not be doing either Robinson or the cause of racial equality anything but a disservice if they disregard that wish, as they did at Ebbets Field two days ago when Robinson appeared there in a Montreal uniform. *The Times*

The banning for a year of the Brooklyn manager, Leo Durocher, by Baseball Commissioner Chandler has attracted much more attention than has the signing of Robinson. The latter seems to us to be more important.

# Jackie Draws Raves . . .

*Daily Worker*

Here are some of the reactions of the baseball writers watching Jackie Robinson in action Monday at Balboa, Panama as he played against the Dodgers. (The Negro star fielded flawlessly at his new first base position and rapped out two hits off Hal Gregg in the 1-1 tie).

*New York, N.Y.*

A. P.—"Jackie Robinson, Negro infielder owned by the Brooklyn Dodgers, enhanced his bid for a major league berth today by playing a flawless game at first base and collecting two hits as. . . Robinson handled 13 chances and one of his hits led to the Royal's only run."

*Wed. 3-19-47*

BILL ROEDER, World-Telegram—"The burning question in the Brooklyn camp no longer is, will Jackie Robinson be brought up to the Dodgers? Instead everybody wants to know when Robinson will be promoted. . . . In other words it is generally conceded that the Negro player will be in a Brooklyn uniform when the season opens. . .

DICK YOUNG, News—"Getting their first look at Jackie Robinson operating at 1st base they couldn't help but the impressed by the fact he may be the solution to their first base problem. . . . Posted at a new position, the IL batting king fielded flashily, executing one particularly brilliant stab of a wild peg."

GUS STREIGER, Mirror.—"One thing is certain, the Dodger pitchers will be bearing down on Robby and if he can hit what they throw him it will be difficult to keep him off first base at Ebbetts Field."

ARCH MURRAY, Post.—"Jackie looked as good at first base and at bat as anybody in Brooklyn flannels in several years . . a solid performer with grace and class. . . Only a natural athlete could have made that kind of a catch. Jackie's fluency around the initial sack makes it hard to believe he's been playing that position less than a week."

*Wed. 3-19-47*

S U N:—"Robinson, facing Hal Gregg three times hit the ball hard and just as often. He sent Carl Furillo back to right of center 375 feet away for his first drive. He singled to center on a letup pitch the next time and then smashed a solid single to left on a fast ball with a two strikes and no ball count. On the bases Robinson was a pitcher worrier. That's an asset Rickey is not ignoring." *Daily Worker*

# NEW DODGER AND A FORMER ONE AT EBBETS FIELD YESTERDAY

Jackie Robinson being greeted in the dugout before the game with the Yankees. Left to right: Schultz, Acting Manager Sukeforth, Robinson, Coach Jake Pitler and Coach Ray Blades.

# BROOKS WIN, 14-6, WITH 11-RUN FIFTH

## Russo Walks 3, Rizzuto Boots 2 and 6 Hits Follow in Big Inning That Routs Yanks

## ROBINSON STARS AT FIRST

### In Dodger Debut, Negro Fields 15 Chances Flawlessly—Lindell Belts Homer

By LOUIS EFFRAT

With Jackie Robinson, first Negro with a major league club since 1884, playing nine innings at first base flawlessly, the Dodgers overwhelmed the Yankees, 14—6, in their exhibition contest before 24,237 persons at Ebbets Field yesterday. The 28-year-old Robinson, whose contract had been purchased from Montreal on Thursday, received a pleasant reception from the fans and the players.

Robinson, though hitless, drove home three Brooklyn runs, two with well-drilled outfield flies. On the field, he handled fifteen chances like a veteran. Two were difficult ones, but Robby did his part neatly.

This was only another spring training game, but in addition to seeing Robinson, the fans welcomed the opportunity to gaze upon Bucky Harris's Yankees for the first time this year. What they saw, however, was on the disappointing side. Fair at Havana, good at San Juan, great at Caracas and colossal at Richmond, Va., the Yankees yesterday were terrible.

Locked in a 3-3 deadlock, the American Leaguers fell apart in a nightmarish fifth inning that saw the Dodgers run themselves dizzy while scoring 11 runs. The Yankee pitching was bad and the fielding worse. Two straight errors by Phil Rizzuto didn't help Lefty Marius Russo, who didn't help himself when he walked three Dodgers in a row in that stanza.

### Russo and Murphy Pounded

For Russo, attempting a comeback, and for the veteran Johnny Murphy, his replacement, it was a sorry afternoon. That was true of all the Yankees, except Johnny Lindell, who is trying a new batting stance and collected a homer and triple. Even Floyd Bevens, who started on the mound and will open the season for the Yankees, and Spud Chandler suffered during their pitching assignments.

Brooklyn, on the other hand, had reason to smile. Joe Hatten, southpaw who may hurl the National League curtain-raiser, Ed Head and Ed Chandler, especially the latter pair, looked good. Certainly, they twirled well enough to stop the Yankees with nine hits, one a bunt and another a blooper.

Six of the sixteen Dodgers hits were fashioned in the fifth and Head, who had relieved Hatten in the fourth, became the winning pitcher. Detailed description of Brooklyn's attack and New York's defense in this frame would be pointless. Anyway, Russo and Murphy would rather forget about everything that occurred.

For the record, though, the inning started with Russo walking Stan Rojek, Carl Furillo and Tom Tatum. Butch Woyt grounded to Rizzuto, who threw wild to second on an attempted force-out. Robinson then bounced to Rizzuto and again Phil threw away the ball. Before the rally ended, six hits and another error followed.

### Misquoted, Says Walker

Dixie Walker, before the game, denied that he had voiced disapproval of Robinson as a Dodger last year. He said he had been misquoted.

The Dodgers released Catcher Ferrell Anderson to Fort Worth of the Texas League on option.

Chuck Dressen, a storm center in the Dodger-Yankee feud, was coach for New Yorkers at third base. Someone tossed a lemon in Dressen's direction. That was the only untoward incident.

Bobby Brown was bedded by intestinal flu and Bill Johnson played third for the Yankees. . . . Robinson wore No. 42 on the back of his Dodger uniform. . . . There were two Robinsons in action, Aaron finishing as the Yankee catcher. . . . Two Chandlers, Spud and Ed—neither related to the commissioner—added to the confusion. . . . Single games today and tomorrow conclude the tied-up series. Each side has won three games.

The box score:

NEW YORK (A.)

| | ab. | r. | h. | po. | a. | e. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rizzuto, ss. | 5 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| Stirnw's, 2b. | 5 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| M'Quinn, 1b. | 5 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Keller, lf. | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Berra, rf. | 5 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Lindell, cf. | 4 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| [illegible]ns'n, 3b. | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| [illegible], c. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| [illegible] | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Murphy, p. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| aHenrich | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| S.Ch'dler, p. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Bevens, p. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| A.Rob'son, c. | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Total | 37 | 6 | 9 | 24 | 11 | 5 |

BROOKLYN (N.)

| | ab. | r. | h. | po. | a. | e. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stanky, 2b. | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 |
| Rojek, 3b. | 5 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| Reiser, cf. | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Furillo, cf. | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Walker, rf. | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Tatum, rf. | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Snider, rf. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Herm'ski, lf. | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Woyt, lf. | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| J.R'ns'n, 1b. | 4 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 0 |
| Miksis, ss. | 5 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 0 |
| Edwards, c. | 5 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Hatten, p. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Head, p. | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| E.Ch'dler, p. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 38 | 14 | 16 | 27 | 13 | 2 |

aStruck out for Murphy in sixth.

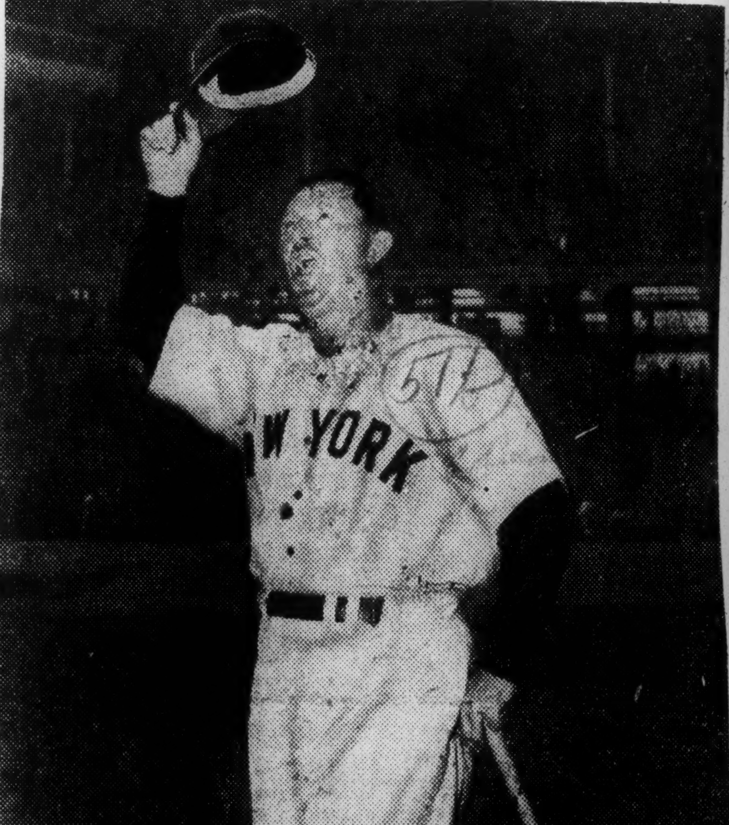
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| New York | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | [illegible] | [illegible] | 0 | 0 |
| Brooklyn | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .. | 14 | 0 | 0 |

Runs batted in—Hermanski 2, W. Johnson, J. Robinson 3, Keller 2, Woyt 2, Edwards, Head, Rojek, Furillo 2, Lindell 2.

Two-base hits—Hermanski, Rojek, Woyt, Edwards. Three-base hits—Lindell. Home run—Lindell. Sacrifices—J. Robinson, E. Chandler. Double plays—Stirnweiss, Rizzuto and McQuinn; A. Robinson and Stirnweiss; Stanky, Miksis and J. Robinson; S. Chandler, Rizzuto and McQuinn; Rizzuto, Stirnweiss and McQuinn. Left on bases—New York 8, Brooklyn 9. Bases on balls—Off Hatten 1, Bevens 2, Russo 4, Head 3, S. Chandler 1. Struck out—By Russo 1, Head 3, S. Chandler 1. E. Chandler 2. Hits—Off Bevens 6 in 3 innings; Russo 2 in 1 1/3. Murphy 4 in 2/3, S Chandler 4 in 3, Hatten 2 in 3, Head 6 in 4, E Chandler 1 in 2. Wild pitch—E. Chandler. Passed ball—Edwards. Winning pitcher—Head; losing pitcher—Russo. Umpires—Goetz and Grieve. Time of game—2:25. Attendance—24,237.

## EXHIBITION BASEBALL

Brooklyn (N) 14, New York (A) 6.
New York (N) 6, Cleveland (A) 2.
Boston (A) 3, Boston (N) 0.
Philadelphia (N) 5, Washington (A) 2.
Chicago (A) vs. Chicago (N), wet grounds.
Cincinnati (N) vs. Pittsburgh (N), wet grounds.
Detroit (A) vs. Louisville (AA), wet grounds.
Rochester (I) vs. Columbia (Sally), rain.




Chuck Dressen, now a Yankee coach, waving to the crowd

# Mother Watches Robinson Play In See-Saw Series

Defender, Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 10-11-47

By LILLIAN SCOTT

**NEW YORK—Any celebrity can be a star on the outside and a failure with his family. That's possible, too, with world famous Jackie Robinson. Possible, but not true—because a success on the baseball diamond, he's been an even greater one as a son.**

You know that after talking to the middle-aged, gray-haired woman with glasses who is Jackie's mother, Mrs. Mallie Robinson. She talks eagerly about the "baby" of her family, the last born of her six sons. Occasionally her eyes twinkle as she thinks of him.

She remembers her widowed years raising a flock of children. She says, "I always wanted one of my children to get somewhere and be able to take care of the family because I always had to hustle—keeping them and working.

**Pledges Her Support**

"When Jackie was about to get married, I said, 'Son, you better give me my portion now.' He said, 'Mama, I've told Rachel and we've agreed that each one shall handle his money as he sees fit. What we do is fair and square. She knows I'm going to take care of you. She wants me to. After all, Mama, if it hadn't been for you, I wouldn't have anything—so you'll always have a living.'"

To his mother, the last son embodied her hopes like young David in the Bible, and just as surely he fulfilled them.

She remembers how close they've always been — how she feared for him when he played football. "I didn't care for football because he got hurt so much. His nose, ribs and ankle were broken. I got so I didn't go to the games anymore. Then he said he'd change to baseball where he'd make more and not get so banged up."

Defender, Chicago, Ill.

**Kept Interview Secret**

Of all moments in his life, "The most thrilling one was when he signed for the Dodgers — it was awful great. He told me and I wasn't supposed to tell about Mr. Rickey interviewing him. He never told me about the contract, though, but they sent it to us in California while he was on the road.

Sat. 10-11-47

"It came from Canada, so the mailman took the envelope back. He said he had to, but I guess he just wanted the stamp for a souvenir. So naturally, when we had the contract in our hands, we read it. Jack called up and we told him. He said, 'Why did you open my mail?' We told him 'we didn't, the mailman did.' Then we sent the contract on to him.

"I always said I'd send a wire to Mr. Rickey thanking him but I never did. Jack says he doesn't like to get things like that and Mr. Rickey would feel the same way, as busy as he is. I'd never met him, so the other day at the park, Rachel introduced him to me and her mother.

**Tells Of Hard Days**

"Mrs. Isum said, 'Mr. Rickey, I've just got to hug you—you're the greatest man in the world!' He said, 'No, Jackie is.' I've always felt so grateful to Mr. Rickey as without him Jack might never have made it."

She remembers the days when Jackie was trying to stick it out with the Royals. "It was so hard what he had to go through. He'd write back, 'Mama, I'm so tired. At night I'm so tired I can't read the paper. Rachel sits on the arm of my chair and reads them to me.' Whenever he'd call me, he'd say that made up for two letters."

She remembers, too, how Jackie's wife helped him. "They work together. When he makes a mistake, she talks to him about it. They just stick together to keep things going. I was so glad he had her there all the time to give him lots of encouragement after a bad day."

**Has Strong Faith**

A woman of strong faith herself, she sees that quality in her son as contributing most to his success. "His good work and his faith made him succeed. I tried to stop it, you know. Even from a kid he wanted to play ball. After I saw he was set on it, I encouraged him."

She remembers her hopes for him, "I planned on his being a big something in an office someday. You know how people dream. That was mine. And before my husband died, we made our plans, we wanted to raise them to be something. He said if anything happened to me he wouldn't put another mother over them, and I agreed the same thing. Course, I told him if something happens to me, you might marry again, but if you go first, I'll keep my contract.

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"I've always loved my children so much. When there wouldn't be much food, I'd tell them to eat. I worried about them. I was helped, though by a nice family, the Dodges, I worked for for 27 years. They were real people. At Christmas time, they'd tell the kids to set down what they needed, and they'd get all the toys they wanted. And they'd give us several fruit cakes she baked specially. I never told them that nobody in my house liked fruit cake."

She remembers, too, the thrill the airplane ride gave her when she and Mrs. Isum came to the World Series. She hadn't been away from home for seven years as she'd been nursing a sick brother. Persuaded to fly, she enjoyed every minute of it.

Mrs. Isum told her, "If we go down, we won't know what hit us." "I told her, 'I'd rather know what hit me—we'll just hold hands.' Later when we were eating dinner, we ran into an air pocket. Mrs. Isum said, 'This cut my appetite.' I said, 'Just pass it over.'

Defender.

"It was beautiful up above the clouds. I looked and looked till my neck began to hurt. I can't miss anything." When we got here, Jack said, 'I knew Mama was holding hands praying.'"

Ill.

She remembers many things, this buoyant little lady wearing a faded blue jacket with UCLA on one shoulder. She remembers the world's star as her little boy who never got so big he forgot her.

# Dedicate Park In Honor Of Jackie Robinson

Daily World, Atlanta, Ga.

**NAME DETROIT PARK FOR JACKIE ROBINSON**

DETROIT—(ANP)— Possibly the first baseball park to named in honor of Jackie Robinson is the old Dequindre park here, the home of the Detroit Wolves. Robinson, who played with the Wolves as star attraction in a game Saturday against the Holy Redeemer, white, team received great acclaim from the fans. During the game won by the Wolves, 11 to 6, the park owner announced that the park was dedicated as "Jackie Robinson field", and from this day on will be known as such.

Tue. 10-21-47

It was a gala day for the lovers of baseball here as Mayor Edward J. Jeffries threw out the first ball and Councilmanic Candidate L. C. Blount received it, making it look like a political battery as both men are running for office and the election is Nov. 4.

Many notables were among the spectators in the stands. Among them were Jackie's mother, wife, and baby. Mayor Jeffries in his speech said among other things that he was glad to meet and to know Jackie Robinson, the most talked of and publicized man in the country the past two years. Other speakers lauded the Brooklyn Dodgers star to the skies and voiced their pleasure over the fact that a Negro had broken down the barriers and had entered the field of big league baseball.

10-21-47

Possibly the shortest speech on record was made by Jackie. He said simply: "I don't talk, I play baseball," and the crowd roared. Another mark of distinction was the fact that the transportation system had a coterie of big new buses lined up at the park to carry the tremendous crowd away, something that had never before happened in the history of Dequindre park. Some observers said it was the doings of Mayor Jeffries who was making political capital, but it at least served a good purpose.

**All-Mighty Dollar Department**

Chicago Defender, Ill.

**JACKIE ROBINSON, the sporting world agrees, has got it. There is no higher praise. Disagreement comes only over how he got chance to show he's got it. Practically everybody claims credit, colored and white sports writers, LaGuardia's Baseball Committee, Owner Branch Rickey and Grandma. All probably deserve credit.**

**But it seems, chum, that Rickey's scouts spent some $25,000 rounding up various dark talent including Jackie for what Rickey originally planned as an all-Negro barnstorming "Brown Dodgers" team. That $ sign is the clue.**

Sat.

**There is a drastic shortage of good material in the big leagues, whatever the reason. Consequently, oldsters ready to retire have come back to star and few if any sales of good players have been made for cash alone. This shortage and the dollar urge led Rickey, characterized as "one of the shrewdest operators in the cut-throat field of professional baseball," to sign Jackie on the off-season when he could sample talk.**

10-11-47

**It paid off, chum, first in Montreal and then in Brooklyn. Wherever Jackie and the Dodgers played the customers and the cash flowed in. Cleveland and St. Louis in the American League got itchy palms and grabbed Negro players without bothering to season them in the minors first. Even this paid off until the novelty wore off.**

**Jackie found when he started winning games with his bunting, hitting and base running, his difficulties vanished. In the stretch when $ and $ rode on every hit and run, teammates who hadn't spoken to him all year were hugging him when he crossed the plate. The eagle on the dollar bill was screaming.**

**Jackie will get a neat sum in salary, undercover bonus and series cut. But we are told his original contract calls for only $5,000 salary for the season. So what has been piously hailed as a noble social experiment has really been an economic experiment. However, it's so successful it can now afford to become a social experiment. In the South it's had peculiar effects; let's look next week.**

# Breezy Side Of World Series

Defender, Chicago

With the exception of President Truman and Joe Louis, the nation's bigwigs, black and white, were a dime a dozen at the World Series. While there is no explanation for the absence of Mr. Truman, it was learned that John Roxborough ordered Joe Louis not to break

training at West Baden, Ind. Roxy also promised to crown him if he caught him with a golf club.

Defender, Chicago, Ill.

Judge Samuel S. Leibowitz of Scottsboro case fame called a two-hour recess in his Brooklyn court room because the jury threatened to walk out at game time on the opening day. The jurors were finally appeased by having a television set put up for them in the court's library. Judge Liebowitz caught the fever and attended the fourth game and ran out to the diamond to kiss Cookie Lavagetto when he clouted that winning double in the ninth frame for the Dodgers.

Sat. 10-11-47

The Hotel Theresa, the Harlem temple to which many citizens of color make an annual pilgrimage, was so full of rich brothers that the bellhops averaged five dollars per pitcher of ice water. Of the 18 Cadillacs parked in front of the Harlem hostelry nine of them bore southern license plates. One Dixie Cadillac customer signed the Theresa register with an X mark.

Jackie Robinson's mother had never met Branch Rickey until the series opened. She greeted the Methodist deacon with a great big hug that almost crushed the Dodger boss. Jackie's mother came from California for the series accompanied by Robinson's mother-in-law, Mrs. Zellee Isum.

The Dodger fans went mildly mad after the story-book finish of the fourth game when pinch-hitting Lavagetto hit the ball that tied the series. They deluged the office of Mayor O'Dwyer with telegrams and telephone calls demanding that he appoint Lavagetto "Deputy Mayor."

10-11-47

Compared to the usual out-of-town crowd which shows up at a Joe Louis championship fight, the World Series contest was strictly a stag affair. Not only did the bigwigs leave their wives at home, they were ducking the Harlem playgirls. Caught between the high-priced ticket scalpers and the high cost of sleeping space, the

bigwigs had only enough left to make a few bets. Oddly enough the bets did not center altogether around the series or Jackie. Grady Jackson of Detroit, for instance, offered to bet Buffalo James of the Motor City a solid grand that he could drive from Chicago to Los Angeles faster than any train.

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Among the intelligentsia on hand to pay tribute to Jackie Robinson were Dr. Charles Johnson, president of Fisk University, Atty. Belford Lawson, head of the Alpha fraternity, Langston Hughes, and a wide assortment of physicians, lawyers and bishops. One of the most rabid fans was the Right Reverend Cobbs of Chicago. His holiness was unaccompanied.

## Jackie Robinson And Baseball

*Daily World* *Atlanta, Ga.*

This short article was sent in to the editor from a white friend and the editor was so impressed with it that he's passing it on to you for your consideration. The following is the article:

"A new chapter has been written in American Baseball with the entrance of Jackie Robinson into the major league—the first Negro to make the grade. It is a healthy sign for race relations. It is a healthy sign for sports. It is a healthy sign for the nation. It is not new for Negroes to participate successfully in American sports. Those of us of the white race recall the outstanding success of Jesse Owens in the last Olympic contests. Buddy Young did well in the last Rose Bowl contest. Paul Robeson was a great athlete in his early days. *June 10-14-47*

"Baseball is traditionally American just as the public school is fundamentally American. The one reason our nation has been so great it is ability to synchronize all races, creeds and colors into one co-operative team. We have become strong through co-operation of different groups--divergent in many ways but ultimately contributing and co-operating. In sports? Yes. In education? Yes. In war Yes.

"Thousands of Negro boys fought and died side by side with the other races on the battlefield. The true test of democracy is, can they play side by side, co-operatively, on the ball field? This is the testing ground of peace and Jackie Robinson is in the center of the question."

# Dodgers To Train In West Indies

*Defender* *Chicago, Ill.*

BROOKLYN — The Brooklyn Dodgers, National League pennant winners, will train next spring in the Dominican Republic, Branch Rickey, Dodger president, disclosed Thursday.

While he did not specifically say so, the West Indies site no doubt was chosen to avoid the problems posed by Florida, Texas, Louisiana and other southern states, in whose towns big league clubs have trained in the past. City ordinances and custom in Dixie ban mixed sports contests.

The Cleveland Indians are also expected to follow Rickey's example and avoid the deep South, probably going to Arizona, California or some other state where there is no race segregation in sports. *Sat 10-18-47*

According to Rickey, the Dodgers will fly to Ciudad Trujillo (Santo Domingo), the capital of the Dominican Republic, a few days before March 1 and stay there until March 31. *Defender*

They have guaranteed the natives of the city of 125,000 that they will play twenty games in their new modern stadium. The only opponent scheduled thus far, however, is the Montreal Royals of the International League, which will train at San Cristobal, twenty miles from Trujilo. The Royals, a Dodger farm club, also is dodging southern Jim Crow laws and customs. *Chicago, Ill*

When and where games will be played on the return trip is indefinite. One port of call probably will be Havana. According to Rickey, the Dodger party will be quartered in a new hotel fronting the Caribbean. *10-18-47*

### Seeks 3 Or 4 More Years

*Journal & Guide*

# Jackie Gives Data On Life In Majors

*Norfolk, Va.* *Sat. 11-1-47*

—WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—After three or four more years of profesisonal baseball, Jackie Robinson, Brooklyn Dodger first baseman said he wants to retire and work with underprivileged boys. *Sat. 11-1-47*

Before his induction into the United States Army, Robinson worked with underprivileged boys in Los Angeles where he had been a four-letter man at the University of California.

After 31 months in the Army, where he became a first lieutenant, Jackie joined the Kansas City Monarchs.

**MIGHT HAVE QUIT**

He said here that if Branch Rickey, president of the Brooklyn Dodgers, had not hired him when he did, he probably would have been out of professional baseball long ago. *Journal & Guide*

In the Negro National League, he said, the jumps by bus were too long, the food and accommodations poor, and he was disgusted. He cited a trip the Monarchs made from Kansas City to Philadelphia, riding overnight, arriving in Philadelphia at 8 o'clock in the morning and playing a game that evening. *Norfolk, Va.*

As a matter of fact, Jackie said, he quite to Monarchs Sept. 3, 1945, before the end of the season. He said he never had a contract and when he asked for one he was told to keep the letters that had been written to him.

**CITES DIFFERENCE**

Answering a question as to the differences between the major leagues and the colored leagues, Jackie said that, in addition to bus travel, when a player joins a colored club the older players are not inclined to help him. "You never learn anything unless you learn it on your own," he said.

He pointed out that he batted 340 i n the Negro National League and .349 with Montreal in the International League. He said he thought the colored leagues are on a par with the triple A leagues, stressing that a major difference was that in the colored leagues there was ball players from class D to major league caliber.

Baseball is his favorite sport, Jackie said. He liked playing second base. He and Peewee Reese, Dodger second baseman, were given the privilege of running the bases on their own, but he usually waited on signals.

**SHOTTON STRATEGY**

The strategy of Burt Shotton in the World Series was to use the speed of the Dodger club to try to defeat the New York Yankees. Jackie said the club had been using its speed all through the season to win games and that the players started running in the first game.

He did not take as much lead off the bases during the regular season as he did in the first game when he caused Frank (Spec) Shea, Yankee pitcher, to commit a balk. He said the players had been told that they had to make the breaks in every game.

Asked why he did not steal against Aaron Robinson, Jackie said he did not get on the paths while Robinson was catching for the Yankees.

**APOLOGIZED TO RIZZUTO**

Jackie said he apologized to Phil Rizzuto, Yankee shortstop, for spilling him at second base. He explained that he did not see Rizzuto on the play but was looking for George Stirnweiss, Yankee second baseman.

He considers Ewell Blackwell, of the Cincinnati Reds as the toughest pitcher he faced in the National League. Floyd Bevins was the toughest pitcher he faced in the World Series. Joe Page had a fast ball. Bobo Newsome, the garrulous, didn't have anything.

Jackie said Larry (Yogi) Berra's hit down the foul line, which caused the biggest squabble of the series, was a foul. He added that the umpire behind the plate called it a foul, but the first base umpire ruled it was fair, and the plate umpire took back his decision.

He considers Monty Irvin of the Newark Eagles and Larry Doby with the Cleveland Indians as the best prospects among colored ball players for the majors. He expects Doby to make good with the Indians. *Journal & Guide* *Norfolk, Va.*

Greenberg Gardens in Pittsburgh is his favorite park. He does not know Leo (Lippy) Dorocher and, therefore, he naturally prefers Shotton as a manager.

Incidents involving him on the baseball diamond have been magnified, Jackie said. He follows Branch Rickey's advice as much as possible.

**BANKHEAD TO MONTREAL**

Dan Bankhead, Brooklyn pitcher purchased from the Memphis Red Sox, will improve but will be with Montreal next season. The Dodger coaching staff, Jackie says, thinks he will be one of the mainstays of the pitching staff after he learns some of the fine points of the game.

He does not think Roy Campanella will be brought up right away because he is not subject to the draft, but there is no question about his being brought up. Jackie described Campanella as "a great catcher and a great competitor."

Upon being hired by Rickey, Jacke said, his ambition was to prove that colored and white ball players could play together.

# Billiken Award Goes To Jackie Robinson

*Defender* *Chicago, Ill.*

Jackie Robinson, Brooklyn Dodgers first baseman, will receive the Chicago Defender Bud Billiken Award, Thursday evening, Nov. 6, as a feature of a testimonial dinner to be given at the Parkway ballroom by Chicago's Committee of One Hundred, a business and professional organization.

The presentation will be made by David W. Kellum, known to thousands of children as "Bud Billiken," and is in recognition of Jackie Robinson's "outstanding contribution to the youth of the nation." *Sat. 11-1-47*

Robinson, on a cross country theatre tour, culminating in Hollywood, has expressed his desire to meet as many residents and fans of Chicago as his brief stay will allow.

Heading the reception committee will be Mrs. Marva Louis, wife of Joe Louis. Ernest R. Rather, president of the Chicago Committee of One Hundred, announced that proceeds of this affair will be used to establish a permanent annual "Jackie Robinson Athletic Scholarship and Trophy" fund.

# FANS & ROBBY

***(Turning this space over to Abner Berry, our colleague and rootin' tootin' baseball fan from 'way back. Particularly pertinent are his keen observations on what Jackie Robinson means to a wide strata of American baseball's fandom.—B.M.)***

* * *

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

**By ABNER BERRY**

There are two little boys—one Negro and one white—who could say a lot about this Un-Americanism business. But they are too young to understand the Truman loyalty oaths and the persecution of trade unionists and foreign-born anti-fascists.

Mon. 9-15-47

One thing they do know, though—Jackie Robinson's entry into Big League baseball has been a big moment in their lives. And they're better Americans because of it. Both of them are too young to remember the pioneering of the Communist Party and the Daily Worker joined by the labor movement and progressives. They take Jackie's appearance each day in the Brooklyn Dodgers line-up as a natural development of history.

I sat next to the little Negro boy in Ebbets Field one day this summer when the Dodgers were playing the Cardinals. He shared my field glasses, and as the Cards came onto the field for practice, he trained them on player after player. Then he turned to me with a disappointed look and said, **"None of them players is Jackie Robinson. When is Jackie coming out? Is he going to play today?"**

I assured him that Jackie would be out there a half hour before game time and that he would have a chance to see him through the glasses. He was satisfied to wait. Others could talk about Musial, Marion, Schoendienst, Brecheen, Pollet and the others who were present world champions. My little fellow wasn't impressed. He was there for one thing—to see Jackie.

When Jackie and the Dodgers trotted onto the diamond he stood clapping and yelling, **"Look, Mommie! Look, Mommie! There's Jackie! See him, right over there by that cage. That's him alright."** He took a long look at Jackie through the field glasses and purred. He had his money's worth.

Indeed, he had more than his money's worth. Jackie's being on that field with the best baseball players in the world had something to do with his future. He could dream without the frustrating knowledge that the dream was barred to life. For him there was hope in America.

**Jackie was his hero, but more than a hero: the bronze first baseman of the Brooklyn Dodgers was both a promise and a fulfillment to him.**

* * *

The little white boy is 11-years old, the son of a Birmingham Alabama, city official. I ran across him while on a recent trip. He choose Jackie Robinson as his pin-up player, and kept his Jackie Album and statistics up-to-date. On the day that Jackie hit a home-run in Brooklyn our Birmingham boy clipped all the stories of the game and mentions of Jackie in the sports columns. On the next day he took them to school with him and showed them gloatingly to his classmates.

He was howled down by a larger boy who derided him as a "n——r lover." But our Jackie fan stuck to his guns. **"He's the best base-runner, isn't he? And he's battin' nearly three hundred, too,"** he pleaded. He had to withdraw in the face of racist intimidation by his school fellows. There were those among them who were with him but who did not have the courage to risk the epithets and possible ostracism.

**At home that night the boy put the matter up to his father. He wasn't willing to put his baseball hero down just because a few of the school bullies with un-American ideas were bad sports. What would his father do in his shoes?**

The whole Negro question in the form of Jackie Robinson was placed in the lap of a white Birmingham family who had heretofore been willing to accept the traditional pattern.

After a pensive pause the father asked: **"Do you think your player is the best?"** The boy answered, "yes."

**"Then don't let anyone push you around or make you lie to yourself,"** the father advised. Mon. 9-15-47

Because of Jackie Robinson's presence on the Dodger team a white father in Birmingham is looking at the Negro question in a new light. He has to if he is to help his son stand by his hero of the diamond.

**And countless thousands of fans, North and South, have been affected by the simple act of signing a Negro named John Roosevelt Robinson to play first base for the Dodgers. You realize this during the tense moments of a Dodger game.**

I remember the time when Jackie committed a fielding error playing against the Pirates. He scooped for a puny grounder down first base line and came up with his bare glove. There was a groan from the filled stands followed by a dramatic silence. That was the day the Dodgers were lambasted 16 to 2. The solence was broken by an uninhibited Brook fan who explained plaintively, **"Gees, a guy's gotta miss one sometime, and anyhow he picked a good day to make a couple of errors."** No one disputed him. The fan was white, and underneath his feeling for Jackie as a Dodger player was his concern with the disadvantage confronting a Negro. **A whole people was brought into his conscientiousness by a Negro first baseman.**

Jackie's playing on the Dodger team has made more fans for the game. More people are better Americans. The Negro boy is a better American. The Southern white boy cannot remain indifferent—nor can his family—to Ku Kluxism in the face of Robinson's performances. He's becoming a better American. And the run-of-the-mill baseball fan is a more responsible citizen in a way he never was before.

The folks who supported the campaign to break Big League baseball Jimcrow made that development possible. And the Communists were definitely a part of them. Can our Un-Americans match this achievement? Mon. 9-15-47

## Brooklyn Headed for World Series

Apparently the Brooklyn Dodgers have been able to stand off the St. Louis Cardinals' "do-or-die" bid for first place and are now well on their way to the championship and World Series. Pittsburgh, Pa., Courier

**"They can't stop us now," Jackie Robinson told me confidentially last Sunday afternoon. "We have everything in our favor and should just about walk in now."** Sat. 9-6-47

If Brooklyn wins, Robinson will be the first Negro player in the annual autumn classic. That achievement will be a fitting climax to a brilliant year. He definitely has been the difference in the Brooklyn club this season. Last year the Dodgers were offensively weak at first base. Neither Howie Schultz nor Ed Stevens came through in the stretch drive, and the Cardinals came on to tie, then beat the Brooks in a three-game play-off. On the other hand, Robinson has held up throughout the campaign. He has produced when the chips were down and has been outstanding from the first day of the season.

**Branch Rickey thinks that Dan Bankhead may be able to take up the slack in the Dodgers' hurling corps. Dan may be the insurance Rickey's been seeking in the final days of the campaign.**

"Bankhead showed me a lot when I saw him pitching for the Memphis Red Sox, where he won 11 out of 15 games and struck out 124 batters in 139 innings," Rickey said. "But he'll be under much greater strain here. I'd say he's going to be under constant fire because he's a pitcher. He'll be under greater strain than Robinson." Sat. 9-6-47

**The Dodgers' boss believes Bankhead has all the qualities of a good pitcher. "If Dan had two and a half more inches in height and a better changeup I'd say he reminded me a good deal of Dizzy Dean," Rickey said. "He's no Bob Feller, but he does have a good fast ball and fair curve."**

## An Example Others May Follow

Atlanta Daily World

The generous allotment of space to the life and pitots of Jackie Robinson as the ace Rookie in the 1947 baseball season by the editors of Time Magazine in the September 22 issue is a splendid example of the leadership of a great news organ can furnish for its readers in matters of interracial goodwill and mutual cooperation. Ga. 9-24-47

The editors, we believe, exhibited a rare degree of courage and fearlessness in carrying Mr. Robinson on the front page of the widely circulated organ. On the inside pages considerable space was devoted to the Robinson's entry and triumph into baseball, together with another picture of himself and other members of his household.

In lauding the editors of Time for this gesture, we do not take the position that it is something that will bring about the millenium in America, far from it. But the move is one so singular and far between that we cannot refrain from the great opportunity to say to other magazines and newspapers that in such worthwhile stories they have their number opportunities to pioneer in the new sort of thinking which the entire woruld must come to adopt more and more before we can arrive at a point whereby men of all races and climes will be willing to sit down and discuss their common problems and opportunities in a divided and chaotic world. For such leadership we congratulate the editors.

# Robinson's Many Gifts Includes '47 Cadillac

Atlanta Daily World

BROOKLYN, N. Y. (SNS)—Brooklyn turned out 26,123 strong at Ebbets Field, Tuesday, to pay Homage to Jackie Robinson, Brooklyn's sensational "Rookie Of The Year," as well as to salute the Dodgers in their newly confirmed role as 1947 National League Champions.

The Dodgers beat the New York Giants, 6-1 behind the brilliant hurling of Lefty Joe Hatten and Dan Bankhead. Hatten set the hard-hitting Giants down with three hits in five innings, giving up a single run, while Bankhead blanked the home-run kings the rest of the way, also scattering three safeties.

**JACKIE ROBINSON TAKES SPOTLIGHT** 9-25-47

Prior to the contest, Jackie Robinson took the spotlight. The Jackie Robinson Day ceremonies got under way at 1:45 and laster 12 minutes Among the speakers in the home-plate ceremonies were Brooklyn Borough President, John A. Cashmore Dr. Clayton B. Powell and Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, who brought down the house with his tribute: "I'm 69 years old but I never thought I'd live to see the day when I'd stand face to face with Ty Cobb in Technicolor." Thurs.

Gifts to Robinson before the game included a stately $4,700, 1947 Cadillac sedan, television and radio sets, a gold watch, cutlery and silverware an electric broiler, a gold pen and pencil set, a substantial check and

other gifts. He also received a plaque for his contribution to "inter-racial goodwill" from the Amsterdam News.

**CADILLAC A GIFT FROM SPORTS FANS**

The imposing Cadillac was a gift from Robinson's thousands of admirers. The money was contributed in sums ranging from a few pennies to $100 and came from persons in all walks of life. The watch was a gift from Mr. and Mrs. Bill Robinson and the television set was given by the RKO-Albee Theatres.

Borough President Cashmore presented the automobile; Dr. C. B. Powell presented the plaque; and Bill Robinson presented the watch.

**THANKS TEAMMATES**

In his remarks, Jackie expressed his gratitude, and took time out to pay a special tribute to his teammates, the members of the Dodger team, who were so cooperative in helping him improve his game.

Bankhead gave his first convincing major-league performance in finishing what Hatten had started. Manager Burt Shotton kept his hard-worked regulars in action just long enough for them to take a well deserved bow. When the last of them had left the scenein the sixth, Brooklyn was leading, 2-1. That margin was extended to a final count of 6-1 when the Dodger junior varsity played out the game.

# Police Rescue Jackie From Fans As Bums Come Home

NEW YORK — (NNPA)—In a rousing homecoming celebration given the Brooklyn Dodgers on their arrival here last Friday morning, Jackie Robinson was almost surrounded until a half dozen policemen rescued him and guided him to a telephone booth where he called his wife to tell her he was back. Robinson emerged and made a dash for the Eighth Avenue subway with a pack of fans giving chase. Fans leaped over turnstiles and pursued him onto the train.

"We'll beat the Yankees," he said. "We'll take 'em all right."

"I love it. It's wonderful," said Robinson when asked how he felt about the noisy welcome in Pennsylvania Station. "I wasn't running away. The only thing I wanted was to call my wife and let her know I was back in town. It's wonderful I'm tickled silly."

Jackie's hitting was a big factor on the western trip of the Dodgers during which the National League championship was virtually cinched.

**TWO HOMERS OFF PIRATES**

Living up to his award as the rookie of the year, Jackie slammed two home runs into Greenberg Gardens during the series with the Pittsburgh Pirates, ending the trip. They were his eleventh and twelfth homers of the season and his third and fourth into the Gardens.

In the game last Thursday, which the Pirates won, 8-7, Jackie got his twelfth homer off Preacher Roe in the fourth inning after Misis, batting for Van Cuyk, had walked.

In the Dodgers' three-run uprising in the first, Jackie forced Ed Stanky and then stole second. Peewee Reese walked. Carl Furillo forced Reese, Jackie taking third. Bruce Edwards then scored Jackie on a three-run homer into the Garden.

Jackie was at bat five time, scored two runs, batted in two, but his homer was his only hit of the game.

**SECOND HOMER**

Jackie got his eleventh homer off Fritz Ostermueller in the game last Wednesday night, which the Dodgers won, 4-2. Leading off in the fourth, he broke the hitless spell Ostermueller was weaving around the Dodgers and gave Brooklyn a 1-to-0 lead.

At bat three times, he got two hits—a double and a home run.

Jackie went hitless at Cincinnati as the Dodgers downed the Reds, 7-3. His best effort was a sacrifice. He did not score.

Robinson's batting average, including the game played last Thursday, follows:

| G. | AB. | R. | H. | 2B | 3B | HR. | RBI. | Pct. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 146 | 573 | 123 | 173 | 32 | 5 | 12 | 48 | .302 |

# Jackie Robinson Signs For Film

HOLLYWOOD (NNPA)—Jackie Robinson, star first baseman of the Brooklyn Dodgers, has been signed to a contract to appear in the film "Courage," to be made by Producers Releasing Corporation, it was announced last Monday.

Branch Rickey, president of the Dodgers, is reported to have sanctioned Robinson's signing the contract. His signature was obtained by Ben Stoloff, executive producer of the corporation.

The picture will be under the direction of the producer, Jack Goldberg. Robinson is expected to arrive here shortly after he completes a personal appearance tour of theatres in the east.

# Negro Star Is Big Worry To Yank Pitchers

## Leads League In Bases Stolen; 2nd In Runs Scored

(Other photos of Jackie on Pages 19 and 22)

By FAY YOUNG
(Defender Sports Editor)

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—**Jackie Robinson, the Brooklyn Dodgers' first sacker, has grabbed the sport spotlight from Joe Louis, world heavyweight champion.**

**Robinson, who was showered with gifts, including a 1947 Cadillac sedan (story on sport page) at Ebbett's** field on Tuesday, Sept. 23, will be the first Negro in baseball history to play in a world series. He will get a full share of the Brooklyn players' end of the series.

Dan Bankhead, pitcher secured from the Memphis Red Sox two days before the deadline, will get a portion of a share of the Brooklyn players' end.

Bankhead hurled two innings Sunday in the Braves' 3-2 victory in Brooklyn. He walked four, struck out two, allowed two hits and one run. Sain was the losing pitcher. Robinson was given a rest as were a number of other Dodger regulars.

Burt Shotten, manager of the National League champions, told the Chicago Defender on Monday that Robinson will remain in his present position in the batting order. Jackie has been batting in number two spot.

Negro fans have been jubilant over Brooklyn's winning the league pennant. But in their jubilation, they have forgotten that although Robinson is the most valuable player on the Brooklyn team, there are others Jackie wishes to have some of the credit.

Robinson reminds all that Dixie Walker and Pete Reiser are batting .311 and .310 respectively and that five of the Dodgers were selected for the All-Star game in Chicago. The last official batting average released had Jackie down for a .298. He led the league with 27 stolen bases and was second in number of runs scored.

Dixie Walker, who hails from Alabama, declared that "no player on the Brooklyn club had done more to help us win the pennant than Robinson."

Robinson is expected to worry the New York Yankees pitchers in the series. He is a fast man on the bases and takes a big lead off. He also is able to beat out many infield grounders for hits which otherwise would be easy outs. This feat causes the opposition to handle Robinson's grounders fast and ofttimes causes the infielders to make errors.

The series opens in New York's Yankee stadium on Tuesday, Sept. 30, and continues there on Wednesday, Oct. 1. It moves to Brooklyn's Ebbett's field here on Oct. 2 and continues there on Oct. 3 and 4. If games number 5 and 6 are necessary, the play moves back to Yankee stadium.

Red Barber and Mel Allen will handle the broadcast over Mutual Broadcasting System's nation-wide network.

A sour note crept into the celebration in the Ebbett's field club house. Word was received from Commissioner "Happy" Chandler in Cincinnati that none of the players on the Yankees or the Dodgers can receive any bonuses for winning the pennant. Last year, Branch Rickey, president of the Dodgers, gave his players an automobile each although the team was nosed out for the championship by the St. Louis Cardinals in a playoff for the league championship. At the same time Tom Yawkey, president of the Boston Red Sox, dished out cash bonuses to the American League champions.

Chandler's ruling was: "Neither of the contesting clubs shall give or pay a bonus or prize to any or all of its players before or after the completion of the series . . . and a player released or transferred by a club or thereafter signed by another club in the same league shall not participate in the proceeds of such series as a present or reward from former teammates, the releasing club or any of its officials."

This leaves Robinson with only his $5,000 salary, the minimum paid in the major leagues, as a member of the Brooklyn Dodgers plus his world series cut. Rickey has been praised for his guts in putting a Negro on his ball club but he has been criticized for not having increased Robinson's salary for 1947. Jackie is responsible for $150,000 extra money coming through the gate this year. Fans point to William Veeck, the Cleveland Indians owner, who gave Larry Doby, Newark infielder, a contract for $5,000 for the balance of the season on July 1 and an added $1,000 if he remained on the club for 30 days which he has.

# JACKIE ROBINSON AND OUR HOTELS

The U. S. Marine Don Edgemon (he's a Cincinnati boy) reports by mail that he felt flattered recently, as a Cincinnati native, by something he read in Time magazine. It was about Jackie Robinson, the Negro player on the Brooklyn team.

Jackie, it seems, was expecting hotel hotel trouble as he traveled about the country with the Brooklyns. Cincinnati was one of the places where he looked for this kind of trouble. But no, says Time. He found it rather in St. Louis and in Philadelphia, not in Cincinnati. (In Cincinnati Jackie Robinson was accepted at the Netherland Plaza.)

"That is some sort of a compliment for Cincinnati, isn't it?" ask Marine Edgemon. And Cincinnatus should add, it's a compliment to the American character of Marine Edgemon—an enlisted defender of the country—to reveal himself as an American sensitive to the rights of fellow-Americans.—Cincinnati Post.

51b 1947

Jackie Robinson

# In this corner

Daily Worker N.Y., N.Y.

## One Baseball Pioneer Talks of Another

**By Bill Mardo** Fri. 6-13-47

**IT'S QUITE** a coincidence that Nate Moreland, first Negro player in California's Sunset League, is also a close friend of Jackie Robinson, a big first himself to organized baseball or didn't you know?

Robby and I had a quick chat before he took the field for his biggest day at Ebbets Field.

**"Sure, Nate and I know each other from 'way back. After all, he attended Pasadena Junior College just before I got there and he was quite an all-round athlete. Baseball, football, and a bit of track too."**

Robby revealed that his friend is about 30 years old, a veteran of the Baltimore Elite Giants and the old Mexico League. **"Nate owns a good fastball and live curve. He'll do okay out there."**

The big clock on the scoreboard said 1:50 and the stocky gent at the microphone next to the Dodger dugout was beginning to announce the starting lineups when our conversation steered to Jackie himself.

How would he do on the second western swing? Jackie shrugged and said time would tell. The first trip around the horn he went great guns until he bogged down in Chicago and St. Louis. But the recent home-stand saw a looser, more confident Jackie starting to come into his own. I asked him how he felt, he seemed a little leaner.

**"No, Bill, I haven't lost any weight—" and here a flash of discomfort flitted across his features—"but to tell the truth, I'm not in the best of health." The stomach ailment which plagued him in Havana? "Yes, it's still bothering me," said Jackie rubbing a hand across his midsection. "I'm not under medical care for it because the doctors already told me it wasn't anything organic. Guess it'll straighten itself out."** Fri. 6-13-47

FOR A GUY who isn't feeling up to par, he later proceeded to tear Ebbets Field apart. Not since Montreal, has Jackie displayed anything like the skill which was his shortly after we spoke. His hits cannonaded off the leftfield wall, his triple to the deepest corner of centerfield saw him run around those bases with a speed that made him resemble a cloud of scared dust, and the tipoff as to how completely Robby came into his own the other afternoon was the tremendous leads he took off the bag. The crowd roared as he kept tantalizing Cincy pitchers Riddle and Gumpert with stretches actually half-way between first and second before they'd go into the windup. Clyde Sukeforth and Branch Rickey have insisted that once Jackie started taking those long leads of his it would mark the moment of his complete confidence and presage his rise to National League stardom.

The writer is in complete agreement and it'll be a slightly sensational Jackie Robinson you'll be hearing about from here in. Here's another tip from the man who'll never let you forget that he picked Jackie to hit .340 with the Royals last year, only to be made a chump by nine extra points. The Dodger first-sacker will wind up his freshman year in the majors with a .330 batting average. You heard me. And if Jackie wasn't so proud about not wanting to bunt his way into a decent b.a., I'd add 15 points to that figure. But he's a Grade-A competitor thru and thru and more power to him for feeling that way.

* * *

**WANNA LEARN why some sports' writers lead such a happy life? It's simple. The readers can't check up on them. A story is written with one "angle" or another, and the average fan without any inside info has to take it at face value. And ye scribe knows that the next day, or the day after, some other angle will be getting milked dry and nobody will remember the foolish slant of two days before.**

So just for today, at our special summer rate, I'm going to give you the dubious privilege of checking up on certain "dope" stories of recent vintage. Oh yes. A dope story is newspaper parlance for wild guessing, or pure and simple space filling on a dull day.

Dope Story No. 1: **"Dodgers Hear Behrman Coming Back."** An afternoon headline—with the story insisting Brooklyn already knew the Bucs were returning Hank Behrman on that optional deal. Now, whether or not Behrman is returned is beside the point because the story had it as a dead certainty.

So your servant asked Dodger boss Burt Shotton and he snorted: **"We haven't heard a thing from Pittsburgh yet. They have the choice of keeping Behrman or returning him to us by June 15."**

Dope Story No. 2: **"Minner Coming Up to Bolster Flock Mound Staff."** Another afternoon paper's angle which had the young farmhand coming to the parent team as soon as Rube Melton was sent away. Melton's been with Montreal two days and still no sign of Minner.

So again your servant asks Shotton and again he chuckles dryly: **"No chance of Minner coming up this season. You know, I read that Minner story in the papers, too!"** Fri. 6-13-47

**THE MORAL:** Don't trust any dope stories unless you read it here, you dope.

# I'm Telling You...

PM New York, N.Y.

**By HEYWOOD HALE BROUN** Fri. 6-27-47

When Jackie Robinson's prospects were being discussed this Spring, his detractors set up a sour chorus containing themes from every old song of bigotry ever heard about Negro athletes. For good measure they threw in a few new ones based on the special circumstances of baseball. There are still a few notes of this outcry to be heard around the country, but most of the strains have been stilled by Jackie's performance and by the manner in which he has been accepted by both teammates and opponents.

We heard that he was a bunt and slap hitter who would be stymied by the better defensive play of the big leagues. It was predicted that when outfielders began to gobble up the sagging liners which went for hits in the International League, that he would resort more and more to bunting, but would fail to make a respectable average out of these taps. Fri. 6-27-47

We heard that he would choke up in the clutch and get his hits only when they didn't count. Similarly, he would lose his daring on the basepaths when threatened with the pegs of major league catchers.

His fielding, according to the boys who want to hear nothing from Negroes but banjo chords, would be brilliant in a show-boatish sort of way, but would crack when the play was really important or when somebody came in to him with spikes high.

It was also freely predicted that players would refuse to associate with him and that the morale of the Dodgers would be ruined by the presence of a Negro in the lineup.

Opposing teams would run him out of baseball in order to protect what is known in certain circles as "The purity of the game."

### *There'd Be Quarreling in the Stands When Jackie Played, the Story Went*

There were also to be ugly goings-on in the stands with crowds of Negro fans demonstrating against umpires who called strikes on Jackie, and quarreling with fans who rooted for the Dodger opposition.

Even those who strongly favored the free admission of Negroes to big league ball clubs were dubious about the experiment. There was a story circulating that Rickey had deliberately chosen Robinson because he was not good enough to make the grade and that Robbie's failure would then provide an unanswerable argument against the signing of any more Negro ball players. Fri. 6-27-47

The season is getting close to the halfway mark, and though it's too early to pronounce Robinson, or any other first-year ball player, an established success, the stories are beginning to look a little feeble.

Robinson's average is hovering around the .300 mark despite the handicap of an early season sore shoulder. While not a real power hitter, Robbie has banged out four home runs so far and has gotten a fair share of extra base hits. His RBI total is not large, but it has grown sharply in recent weeks. Because of his speed and bunting ability he's usually called on to sacrifice with men on, which doesn't help the total to grow. In the runs scored department, he is second only to Johnny Mize in the National League, which indicates he is managing to run pretty well between third and home. He also leads the league in stolen bases with 10, one of them a steal of home.

### *Third in All-Star Poll, Good Showing for Freshman*

As a fielder, he turns out neither to be brilliant nor bad. Considering that he took over a brand new job when he was placed at first base, this is a high recommendation. At the moment he is running third in the poll for All-Star first baseman, which is not a bad spot for a first year man in a new job.

His teammates were a little standoffish at the beginning of the season, but they never made it tough for him afield, as it would have been easy for them to do. Lately they have been more friendly, and they've always been helpful with advice.

Members of the Cardinal team started to engineer a prairie fire of protest against him some weeks ago, but it was quickly quenched by Ford Frick and none of the other teams showed much interest in keeping it ablaze. When the Dodgers were in St. Louis on the current road trip several of the Cardinals went out of their way to be pleasant to Robinson to disassociate themselves from the nasty work of their teammates. Despite the pressure of playing there so soon after the protest, Robinson hit in the last three games of the four-game series, even though the Dodgers generally fell apart.

Early in the year Robbie's fans tended to cheer his every move, no matter how routine, but at his own request they treat him now as just another ball player. Fri. 6-27-47

It is now obvious that Rickey had no circumlocutory villainy in mind when he signed Robinson and it appears that he may even have competition from other clubs in signing more Negro ball players. Rickey has been a booster for Robinson right along and is convinced that his new first baseman is just hitting his stride and will soar to new accomplishments. Despite all the calamity howling Jackie Robinson is now not spoken of primarily as a Negro but as a Dodger—and a useful one.

**JACKIE ROBINSON is not only "Rookie of the Year" but also "Hero of the Year." It took a young man of stout heart, patience and intelligence to go successfully through the ordeal of the past six months. The same qualities will prove equally profitable for his group. He didn't whine, carp nor beg, and neither should his people.**

# Set to Open Season as First Baseman

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 4-19-47

## Ex-Montreal Star Impressive in Series With N.Y. Yankees

**By SAM LACY**
**AFRO Sports Editor**

BROOKLYN—Jackie Robinson, completing three full exhibition games here against the New York Yankees, on Monday night was set to open the 1947 National League season as first baseman for the Brooklyn Dodgers.

**The former UCLA all-round athlete, who captured the International League batting crown last year in his first crack at organized baseball, is already rivalling Dixie Walker as the favorite of Flatbush fans, than whom there is no more rabid a bunch anywhere in the world.**

Purchased from the Montreal Royals on Thursday, Jackie was signed to a Dodger contract at 11 o'clock Friday morning and three hours later was installed at first base in the lineup against the Yankees. He has placed the position ever since.

Though failing to obtain a hit in the opening game of the series, which the Bums took, 14-6, Jackie was credited with three runs batted in, was on base twice and handled 15 putouts without error, one on the back end of a double-play. Sat. 4-19-47

On Saturday, Jackie's slashing single to left scored Pete Reiser from second, with the run which prevented his mates from being white-washed as the Yanks won, 8-1. He accepted 11 fielding chances without a miscue and took part in the completion of three twin-killings.

In Sunday's 10-9 loss to New York, Robinson banged out a single in the first inning, having been moved from the No. 6 to the No. 2 spot in the batting order. Thereafter, he met the ball solidly but couldn't get it to fall safe. Afield, he took care of 10 putouts, still without error, two of them for double-play completions.

Several of Jackie's new teammates praised him following Sunday's game. Acting Manager Clyde Sukeforth stated that he "looks good" and reiterated an earlier commitment that "Jackie's going to have a thorough trial at the position." Sat. 4-19-4-

Ed Stanky, the Bums' brilliant second baseman and a native of Mobile, Ala., observed: "Well, with the pressure eased now, he should do all right. I think he did remarkably well the first two days when the pressure was terrific.

"There is this that can be said about him: he learns very fast. I pointed out one or two things to him which I thought would help, and I noticed that he didn't have to be reminded again. Looks like he doesn't make the same mistake twice."

President Branch Rickey announced the purchase of Jackie's contract at the height of the Montreal-Brooklyn exhibition game on Thursday afternoon. The announcement was in the form of a 14-word statement: "The Brooklyn Dodgers today purchased the contract of Jackie Robinson from the Montreal Royals."

The Rickey statement brought to an end a long period of speculation as to whether or not the Brooklyn boss would have the temerity to place Jackie in the major leagues. Sat. 4-19-47

As predicted in the AFRO just two weeks ago. Robinson goes to Brooklyn as a utility infielder, capable of playing first base, second base or shortstop.

Robinson signed a Dodged contract on Friday morning in Rickey's office. No salary terms were disclosed but both the club president and the player appeared highly pleased. Robinson was in a Brooklyn uniform when his team took the field for exhibition games with the New York Yankees.

Rickey called a press conference immediately after Thursday's Brooklyn-Montreal game was completed. He explained that he had made the decision to promote Jackie "several weeks ago," but it wasn't until the ball game was in progress here Thursday that he made up his mind to do it right away.

**Didn't Think Time Proper**

"Leo," said Rickey referring to deposed manager, Leo Durocher "was very much in favor of bringing Robinson up. As matter of fact, he asked me to do just that when the club returned to Havana from Panama, but I didn't because I didn't think that it was the proper time."

The Dodger president refused to state in what position Jackie might be uesd. "That," he said, "is something I cannot say. Where he will play, if at all, will have to be decided later."

Asked who would be the one to make the decision, Rickey replied: "At the present we have four managers, the three coaches and myself. We discussed the matter on Wednesday after the shock of the Chandler action suspending Leo.

"They favored bringing the boy up," he continued after some thought, 'then it was left to me to decide the best time for the move." Sat. 4-19-47

In answer to a question, the Brooklyn boss said that he was "concerned" about the reaction of Dodger players but was not "worried." Indication was that he hoped for the best but is prepared to handle anything that might develop.

**Jackie Talks for AFRO**

Jackie was elated when he heard the news, but not demonstrative. After a momentary smile, his face assumed a serious look. He told the AFRO:

"I'm extremely grateful for the confidence which Mr. Rickey and the Brooklyn officials have placed in me, and they can be sure that I will give them the very best I have at all times. I wish nothing but to bring credit to all those who believe in me and I ask God's help in that."

Jackie and his Montreal mates defeated the Dodgers on Thursday, 5-4. Playing at first base throughout, he was without error and also failed to hit. He scored a run in the fourth, however, when walked and was propelled around by a homer by Pug Lund, white. Robbie bunted into a double play to smear a potential fifth-inning rally. Sat. 4-19-47

Roy Campanella, making his first appearance as a Montreal regular, caught the last three innings, flied left in his only time at bat and figured in a double play in the eighth that choked off a Brooklyn threat to tie the score.

# Sport Magazine Hails Frick For Robinson Stand

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Thurs. 6-26-47

The current issue of SPORT magazine praises the stand that Ford Frick took in the recent St. Louis Cardinals—Jackie Robinson affair. Devoting its full editorial to a comment of the attitude of other players toward Robinson, SPORT states, "Ford Frick's speech is the kind you can't top with any comment of your own. It's the kind of speech that speaks for itself. We're sorry it had to be made, but were glad it was made. The name Ford Frick ought to mean something pretty special from here on in.

"This statement may not look so important right now, but it could turn out to be the Gettysburg Address of baseball." Thur. 6-26-47

SPORT refers to the recent incident when the St. Louis players had threatened to strike because of Robinson. Frick at that time warned, "Those who do will encounter quick retribution. All will be suspended, and I don't care if it wrecks the National League for five years. This is the United States of America, and one citizen has as much right to play as another. The National League will go down the line with Robinson whatever the consequences."

# Robinson's Batting Average Spirals To .300; Helps Dodgers Halt Cubs

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.

Sat. 6-28-47

CHICAGO, Ill.—(NNPA)—With Jackie Robinson, Dodger first baseman, who is batting .300 now and playing great baseball, Brooklyn made a clean sweep of their series with the Chicago Cubs here, winning the final game last Thursday, 5-1. The series drew 63,352 paid admissions.

The Cubs led, 1 to 0, until the sixth inning. Then, Johnny Schmitz walked Jackie. The base running of Robinson had the Cub pitchers watching him anxiously. He kept edging off first and sliding back when Schmitz kept throwing to first to pick him off. Schmitz got badly upset, and Pee Wee Reese tripled, scoring Robinson with the tying run. Reese scored on Carl Furillo's fly to center field.

Jackie scored again in the seventh after he had got his second single to load the bases. Reese singled, scoring Gil Hodges, Dodger catcher. Russ Meyer relieved Schmitz and struck out Furillo but walked Duke Snider, forcing in Ralph Branca, Dodger pitcher. Russ Meers relieved Meyer. Meers walked Johnny Jorgensen, forcing Robinson across with the last run of the game.

**ANOTHER STEAL**

At bat four times, Jackie was credited with two hits and two runs. He also stole a base to regain his league leadership of pilfered bases with nine.

Robinson's batting average through last Thursday's game follows: Sat. 6-28-47

| G | Ab | R | H | 2B | 3B | HR | Rbi | Pct. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 55 | 213 | 44 | 64 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 14 | .300 |

Robinson enjoyed a free trip around the bases in the eighth inning of the game against the Chicago Cubs which Brooklyn won last Wednesday at Wrigley Field by a score of 5 to 3.

Jackie was safe at first on an error by Don Johnson, Cub third-baseman. Gene Hermanski, Dodger left fielder sacrificed and when Jackie saw third uncovered he started for that bag. Johnson threw to the base, expecting somebody to cover but when nobody did the ball went into the Cubs' dugout and Robinson scored.

**JACKIE SINGLES**

The Dodgers had tied the score at 3-all in the sixth. Eddie Stanky Dodger second baseman, walked and went to third on Jackie's single. Robinson moved to second when Tom Dallesandro, Cub left fielder, tried to catch Stanky at third. Hermanski singled to center, scoring Stanky and Robinson.

Afield Jackie handled ten chances without an error. At bat four times, he got only one hit but scored two of the Dodger's five runs. The Dodgers made four double plays, in three of which Robinson figured.

Typical of the crowds that have watched the Dodgers play since Jackie joined the team, 23,313 fans saw the game, although the weather was chilly and somewhat cloudy.

In the opening game of the Cub series last Monday, Robinson was at bat four times got one hit but failed to score. The Dodgers tied the score in the second at 1-1 when Doyle Lade walked Jackie, forcing Reese home. They went on to win the game, 2 to 1, in the fifth with an unearned run, ending a Dodger five-game losing streak. A crowd of 20,097 patrons saw the game. Sat. 6-28-47

**SPOILS NO-HITTER**

Howie Pollett, St. Louis Cardinal pitcher who has had a bad season thus far save against the Dodgers, had a no-hitter going into the sixth inning of the game last Sunday, which St. Louis won, 11-3. With one out, Jackie Robinson spoiled his no-hitter, getting a clean single to center.

But the Dodgers did not score until the eighth when Robinson beat out a bunt for his second hit to fill the bases. The Dodgers tallied three runs before the inning ended.

# Robinson Is In Who's Who In 3 Departments

Fri. 7-11-47

St. Louis, Mo. Argus

The National League Who's Who in baseball shows that the sensational Rookie Jackie Robinson was batting .317 in seventh place Sunday and led four department. The records are as follows:

**National League**

Batting — Walker, Philadelphia, .3413; Slaughter, St. Louis, .3412.

Runs—Mize, St. Louis, 68; **Robinson**, Brooklyn, 60.

Runs Batted In—Cooper, New York, 66; Marshall, New York, 63.

Hits—Baumholtz, Cincinnati, 94; **Robinson**, Brooklyn, 90; Haas, Cincinnati, and Slaughter, St. Louis, 86.

Doubles—Slaughter, St. Louis, 18; Baumholtz, Cincinnati, 17.

Triples—Cooper, New York, 5; 11 players tied with four.

Home Runs—Mize, New York, 22; Marshall, New York, and Kiner, Pittsburgh, 19. Fri. 7-11-47

Stolen Bases—**Robinson**, Brooklyn, 13; Hopp, Boston, 9.

Strikeouts—Blackwell, Cincinnati, 100; Branca, Brooklyn, 76.

Pitching—Blackwell, Cincinnati, 14-2, 875; Munger, St. Louis, 7-1, .875.

# Jackie Robinson 'Fires' Brooklyn Dodgers With Speed, Dazzling Play

Chicago Defender, Ill.

9-20-47

ST. LOUIS — (NNPA) — Jackie Robinson, the "rookie of the year," got two hits out of four times at bat and scored two runs, but the Brooklyn Dodgers lost the second game of the crucial series last Friday to the St. Louis Cardinals, 8-7.

In the ninth inning, when the Dodgers scored four runs to take a 7-6 lead, Ed Stanky and Robinson singled in succession, and Pete Reiser sacrificed to set the stage for Dixie Walker's two-run single to right that put the Dodgers ahead.

Robinson walked in the sixth and stole second as Reiser struck out but was left stranded when Walker flied to Northey and Hermanski grounded to Jones.

Hugh Casey replaced Hal Gregg in the box for the Dodgers as the Cardinals came to bat in the seventh. He walked Marty Marion, the first batter to face him. Joe Garagiola sacrificed. George Munger, Cardinal pitcher, also walked; Dusak fanned. Stan Musial hit a three-and-two pitch to the right centerfield wall for a base clearing triple.

Dan Bankhead then relieved Casey and ended the inning by inducing Enos Slaughter to ground to Stanky.

Bankhead walked Ron Northey to open the eighth. Terry Moore sacrificed and after Bankhead had pitched two balls to Marion, one a wild pitch that enabled Chuck Diering, running for Northey, to go to third, Bankhead was relieved by Phil Haugstad. Phil walked Marion, the pass being charged to Bankhead.

• • •

**THE SPORTING NEWS**, in its edition dated September 17, named Robinson as its choice for "rookie of the year."

The magazine emphasized that Robinson's selection was based solely on his ability as a hitter, runner, fielder and team man.

"The sociological experiment that Robinson represented," the story said, "the trail-blazing that he did, the barriers he broke down, did not enter into the decision."

It was most impressed by Robbie's fleetness on the bases. Characterizing him as an "ebony Ty Cobb," it mentioned numerous instances in which Jackie broke up ball games with his daring on the basepaths.

"The point here is that Robinson is not spectacular in a lone wolf manner. His hot-footing has typed the Dodger play. Teaming with another superflyer, Pete Reiser, he inspired the most descriptive line written this year, 'The Dodgers hit short and run long.'"

The magazine concluded with: "Jackie Robinson has done it all, in his first year as a major leaguer. What more could anyone ask?".

9-20-47

**ROBINSON JOINED THE** Dodgers last April from Montreal. He has laid down 42 successful bunts, 14 of them beaten out for hits and 28 sacrifices. His stolen base total is 25 and he has hit 10 home runs. He ran his batting average up to .317 in June when he exhibited a 21-game hitting streak, dropped to .253 in July and during August hit a .311 clip.

Despite the injunction of Eddie Dyer, Cardinal manager, to his players to avoid incidents involving Jackie Robinson, Cardinal players apparently are going out of their way to "get" Jackie.

This was apparent last Thursday night when Garagiola, Cardinal catcher, stepped on Jackie's foot in crossing first base after hitting into a double play in the second inning, although he was out by five steps or more.

When Robinson came up to bat in the third inning, he obviously said something to Gargiola and suddenly plate umpire Beans Reardon stepped between the two players and pushed them apart. Coach Clyde Sukeforth came running out of the Dodger dugout and was rather violently pushed away by Reardon, who apparently wanted it understood that he had the situation under control and didn't want any players from either team butting in.

More remarks were exchanged by Robinson and Garagiola but no more threatening moves were made, and Jackie finally fouled out to the catcher to end the inning.

"I don't think Garagiola did it intentionally," Robinson said, "but this makes three times in two games with the Cardinals that it's happened." 9-20-47

A two-run homer by Jackie off Harry (The Cat) Brecheen in the fifth inning of the game tied the count at 2-all, and the Dodgers went on to win, 4-3.

With two out in the fifth, Stanky singled to center. Robinson then slammed his tenth home run of the season into the left field bleachers, scoring behind Stanky.

• • •

**ROBINSON RETURNED** to the Dodger line-up against the Chicago Cubs after a two-game absence due to an ailing back, and Manager Burt Shotton put him in the clean-up spot in the batting order for the first time this season, dropping Carl Furillo to seventh. The Dodgers beat the Cubs, 5-1.

In the fourth inning, Jackie scratched an infield single off the shin of Bob Chipman, Cub pitcher.

Jackie's single and subsequent speed on the bases gave the Dodgers another run in the eighth after they had scored three in the seventh to make the count, 4-1.

He opened the eighth with a single to center off Hank Borowy, promptly stole second and reached third as Ray Mack, Cub second baseman, was throwing out Bruce Edwards.

# Dodgers Blast Yankees, 8 To 6, To Even Series

Advertiser Montgomery, Ala.

## Record Throng, 74,065, Sees Brooklyn Win; Al Gionfriddo Is Star

Mon. 10-6-47

By GAYLE TALBOT

YANKEE STADIUM, NEW YORK, Oct. 5—(AP)—A battling band of Brooklyn Dodgers thrilled a record World Series throng of 74,065 today by outslugging the New York Yankees, 8 to 6, to deadlock the playoff at three victories apiece and send it right down to the final struggle tomorrow.

Facing sudden death if they lost, the scrappers from across the bridge came from behind to score four runs in a magnificent sixth-inning outburst and then put on a brilliant fielding exhibition in the late innings to protect their advantage.

At the end it was so dark it was impossible to follow a fly ball from the stands, and for the fourth straight day Hugh Casey, doughty Brooklyn veteran, was out there standing off the hated Yanks.

The long-drawn contest required three hours and 19 minutes, making it the longest nine-inning game in World Series annals. Mon. 10-6-47

**Six Yankee pitchers, including the club's ace reliefer, Joe Page, felt the wrath of the Dodger bats, and four flingers toiled by stages for Brooklyn. The Yank total equalled another World Series mark. The Yankees boomed the more hits, 15 to 12, but the Dodgers put theirs in jucier clusters.**

A terrific fielding play by little Al Gionfriddo, substitute Brooklyn outfielder, settled the Yankees' hash in the sixth inning. But for his almost unbelievable catch of a belt by Joe Di Maggio just before the ball would have dropped into the Brooklyn bullpen in left field, the series might have been over tonight.

The Dodgers just had pulled ahead at 8-5 by their four-run stand in the first half of the frame, and the Yankees were hot and panting to make a big inning comeback when Gionfriddo killed it off. The scampering little gardener had gone in to start the inning as a replacement for Eddie Miskis, and it probably was the greatest technical move Manager Burt Shotton ever will make.

### Gionfriddo Shines

Two Yanks were out and two runners were straining on the base paths when Di Maggio caught hold of one of Lefthander Joe Hatten's stants with everything he had and sent it screaming high and far toward the outer reaches. The crowd stood and yelled "It's in" as Gionfriddo raced back and back, his short legs churning the turf.

It didn't appear possible he could make the catch, but just as the pellet was ready to drop over the railing before the Brooklyn bullpen at the 415-foot mark, the little guy leaped and speared it with his gloved hand. It was a moment before the crowd fully realized what had happened, and then it rose in a body and cheered Gionfriddo steadily for all the time it took him to trot in to his dugout. Mon. 10-6-47

That was the one dramatic high spot of the long struggle which was not otherwise distinguished by great baseball, but was good, clean fun all the way. Some of the smashing blocks thrown into rival shortstops in breaking up double plays at second would have done credit to any football game. The boys are warming up, and tomorrow's tussle snould be worth traveling farther than the Bronx to see.

Shotton, having shuffled his pitching staff like a Mississippi card sharp for six days, declared he had no idea which one of his staff would be given tomorrow's vital assignment. "I've got 10 pitchers and I'll use 'em all if I need to," he said solemnly. The best bet appeared to be that Hal Gregg would start and that Casey would finish.

**There was no question of Manager Bucky Harris' choice for the big one, the result of which will make a great difference in the size of the players' series checks. It had to be Bill Bevens, the large fellow who three days back came within one long out of hurling the first no-hit game in play-off history, but lost the decision on Cookie Lavagetto's double in the ninth.**

Although the Dodgers were properly proud of the job they did on the Yankee pitchers with their bats today, they left not the slightest doubt that their candidate for president was Gionfriddo, the substitute. They made much of the grinning little fellow in the dressing room, as they had of the other sub, Lavagetto, two days ago.

"Ran back about 100 feet, I guess," Gionfriddo said happily. "All I thought of was catching it. Yes, I guess that was a bigger thrill than stealing second base in the fourth game."

Another who made quite a catch to throttle an incipient Yankee threat was Dixie Walker, who backed against the fence in right field and leaped to rob Tommy Henrich of a home run at the start of the eighth frame. It wasn't in the same class with little Al's, though.

When Casey made his daily appearance in the ninth the Yanks had two on the sacks on a single by Bill Johnson and a walk to George McQuinn. Hatten, who had taken over the Dodgers chukking in the sixth, was showing obvious signs of wavering.

Casey got Rizzuto on a fly to center field for the first out, but Aaron Robinson singled to left to load the bases, and it looked like anything might happen in the deep dusk. Lonnie Frey went in the pinch hit, and whacked into a force play as Johnson crossed the plate for the sixth Yankee run. George Stirnmeiss finally ended the agony with a roller to Casey, who tossed him out.

The game started out to be a Brooklyn runaway. Allie Reynolds, who licked the Dodgers in the second game of the series, was no puzzle at all to Shotton's lads this time. They ganged on him for two runs on three solid shots, a walk and a passed ball in the first inning, and drove him from the premises when the first three men to face him in the third—Pee Wee Reese, Jackie Robinson and Dixie Walker—connected for bell-ringing doubles.

Meanwhile, little Vic Lombardi, also making his second series start, had stifled the Yanks easily for two frames. But in the third the Bombers knocked him loose from his cap. Four of the first six men to face him blasted hits, and by the time Ralph Branca dashed in to the rescue two runs were across. The first two Yanks to face Branca also blazed away, and by the time he got Phil Rizzuto for the third out two more scores were in and the count was tied 4-4. Advertiser

The next frame, in which the Yanks put across another run and forged ahead, produced the most vociferous and prolonged "rhubarb" of the series thus far. With two on and two out, Yogi Berra, replacing Johnny Lindell in the Yanks' line-up, lined a scorcher down the right field line to score Aaron Robinson, who had singled.

Only thing was, the Dodgers in general and Eddie Stanky in particular didn't think the ball hit fair, and they made quite an issue of it. Stanky, plainly the angriest Dodger of them all, threw his cap on the ground twice and stamped it as he argued with First Base Umpire Ed Rommel. Finally another arbiter, Larry Goetz, pulled Stanky away from Rommel and enabled the game to continue. Montgomery Ala

Berra had gone in to replace Lindell after the big slugger had complained of a pain in his side. Later he was found to have a fractured rib and it was announced he would not be available for tomorrow's game. It means much less of power to the Yanks, as he had slammed nine hits, including three doubles and a triple, in 20 attempts.

It was the run from Berra's blow which loomed so large as the Brooks went to bat against Joe Page's left-handed shoots in the sixth. With the game's best reliefer in charge of things, supposedly, Yankee adherents were sitting back comfortably and lighting fresh cigars.

Then Bruce Edwards inaugurated the sixth with a single to right, and Carl Furillo banged a double to left. Lavagetto, making his third try as a pinch-hitter in three days, drove a long fly to center, on which Edwards cantered in—and the panic was on.

### Bragan Produces

Bobby Bragan, Dodger relief

catcher, hit for Ralph Branca and lashed a double to left, scoring Furillo. When Stanky followed with a single to right and took second on Robinson's error on the throw-in, it was curtains for Page. Big Bobo Newsom swaggered in, and Reese greeted him with a base-cleaning single into left-center. That was all, but it proved to have been enough.

In addition to knocking across game when he went in as a pinch-runner for Bragan in the big sixth and scored on Reese's hit. Jackie Robinson, the first Negro to gain the distinction, hit a single and a double today and knocked across a run. Montgomery Ala.

| BROOKLYN (NL) | AB. | R. | H. | PO. | A. | E. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stanky, 2b | 5 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 0 |
| Reese, ss | 4 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| J. Robinson, 1b | 5 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 0 |
| Walker, rf | 5 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Hermanski, lf | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Miksis, lf | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gionfriddo, lf | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Edwards, c | 4 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Furillo, cf | 4 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 0 |
| Jorgensen, 3b | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Lavagetto, 3b | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Lombardi, p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Branca p | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| x Bragan | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| xx Bankhead | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hatten p | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Casey p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Totals | 39 | 8 | 12 | 27 | 9 | 1 |

x Doubled for Branca in 6th.
xx Ran for Bragan in 6th.

| NEW YORK (AL) | AB. | R. | H. | O. | A. | E. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stirnweiss, 2b | 5 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 0 |
| Menrich, rf-lf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Lindell lf | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Berra rf | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| DiMaggio, cf | 5 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Johnson, 3b | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 0 |
| Phllips, 1b | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| z Brown | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| McQuinn, 1b | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 1 |
| Rizzuto, ss | 4 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 0 |
| Lollar c | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| A. Robinson c | 4 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Reynolds, p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drews, p | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Page, p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Newsom, p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| zz Clark | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Raschi, p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3z Houk | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Wensloff, p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 4z Frey | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 42 | 6 | 15 | 27 | 14 | 2 |

z Singled for Phillips in 3rd.
zz Lined out for Newsom in 6th.
3z Singled for Raschi in 7th.
4z Forced A. Robinson for Wensloff in 9th inning. Mon. 10-6-47

Score by innings:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Brooklyn (NL) | 202 | 004 | 000—8 |
| NEW YORK (AL) | 004 | 100 | 001—6 |

SUMMARY—Runs batted in: J. Robinson, Walker, Stirnweiss, Lindell, Johnson, Brown, Berra, Lavagetto, Reese 2, Frey. Two-base hits: Reese, J. Robinson, Walker, Lollar, Furillo, Bragan. Double play: Rizzuto to Phillips. Earned runs: Brooklyn (NL) 7, New York (AL) 6. Left on bases: Brooklyn (NL) 6, New York (AL) 13. Bases on balls: off Reynolds 1 (Hermanski) off Drews 1 (Reese); off Hatten 4 (Stirnweiss, McQuinn 2, Rizzuto. Strikeouts: by Lombardi 2 (Johnson, Drews); by Branca 2 (Drews, Stirnweiss); by Page 1 (Walker); by Raschi 1 (Edwards). Pitching summary: Reynolds 4 runs, 6 hits in 2 1-3 innings; Drews 0 runs, 1 hit in 2 innings; Page 4 runs 4 hits in 1; Newsom 0 runs, 1 hit in 2-3; Raschi 0 runs 0 hits in 1; Wensloff 0 runs 0 hits in 2; Lombardi 4 runs, 5 hits in 2 2-3; Branca 1 run 6 hits in 2 1-3; Hatten 1 run 3 hits in 3 (none out in 9th); Casey 0 runs 1 hit in 1. Wild pitch: Lombardi. Passed ball: Lollar. Winning pitcher: Branca. Losing pitcher, Page. Umpires: Pnelli (NL) plate; Rommel (AL) 1b; Goetz (NL) 2b; McGowan (AL) 3rd; Boyer (AL) lf; Magerkurth (NL) rf. Time: 3:19. Attendance, 74,065 (paid.)

# "Rookie Of The Year" and A Gentleman

Norfolk, Va.

MILLIONS of Americans will applaud wholeheartedly the designation of JACKIE ROBINSON as "Rookie of the Year" by the Bible of baseball, *The Sporting News*. This selection is the equivalent of being chosen on the football All-American. With every conceivable odd against him, the young ex-collegian and ex-Army lieutenant has made good—not as a freak, special attraction, or novelty, but as a darn good, reliable, and occasionally spectacular major leaguer.

A similiar and authoritative, if somewhat less unofficial, honor came almost simultaneously to young ROBINSON when he was chosen among the ten "Stars of 1947" by Sports Editor ARTHUR DALEY of the *New York Times*, in an illustrated article in the *Times Magazine* last Sunday. Mr. Daley said:

"The galaxy of stars... has a most unusual one in JACKIE RORINSON, who came up as a curiosity and novelty but remained to establish himself as a mighty fine ballplayer. His color was not in his skin. It was in his spectacular speed afoot, which caught the fancy of the crowd. The first Negro ever to play in the major leagues, JACKIE ROBINSON of the Dodgers, bore up under unprecedented pressure to become a candidate for the 1947 title of outstanding rookie."

A few statistics will further prove that the choice of ROBINSON is eminently justified. He has batted over or just under .300 all season, being at times among the first 10 batters of his league and always in the first twenty, or among the upper ten percent of this cream of the baseball crop. He is far and away the best base-stealer in the big leagues.

In the National League he had, thru last Friday's (latest official) figures stolen 26 bases, double the amount of the next nearest player.

He has played in every Brooklyn game since the opening day of his first year in the big time, except when out with painful but not crippling injuries. In the recent crucial series with the league champions of 1946, the St. Louis Cardinals, he was the best batsman for his team and the second best of either team—batting .461 in the three-game duel, which Brooklyn copped two games to one. Included in his batting exploits was a potent home run, of which he has made ten in all. His individual batting record through last Friday, per the official statistics, is as follows:

| G | AB | R | H | HR | RBI | SB | Pc. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 140 | 545 | 117 | 161 | 10 | 42 | 26 | .295 |

In the Negro American League, playing with Kansas City Monarchs, he was brilliant as a shortstop, base stealer, and hitter. Purchased by Brooklyn and assigned last year to its Class AA farm team, Montreal (Canada) of the International League, ROBINSON had a "story-book" first day, then continued the pace to lead the league in batting and stolen bases. But he had to play a new position, second base.

Last spring he went to Cuba and was handicapped by eating problems brought about by discrimination and by the very obvious distaste of Brooklyn's now banished manager, LEO DUROCHER, for colored athletes. ROBBIE persisted. Then came his chance, almost simultaneously with the banishment of DUROCHER from organized baseball for one year for the good of the sport, by Commissioner HAPPY CHANDLER.

But he had to make good in the majors at a position he had *never* played before, first base. The records tell how beautifully and nearly errorlessly he has fielded that position.

A lot of credit must go to President BRANCH RICKEY of the Dodgers, who bucked precedent and ingrained prejudice when he signed—and then stoutly stood by — ROBINSON. The other day LARRY MCPHAIL of the Yankees got into another stew with Commissioner CHANDLER because he ignored a "silence" edict to say, according to noted sports writers, that DUROCHER would not have been suspended except that RICKEY wanted him suspended.

Every since LIPPY LEO's banishment the suspicion has been in our mind that his on-and off-the-field antics were not entirely the story of his being disciplined. If he was blocking ROBINSON's advancement to the Dodgers Mr. RICKEY might well have thought that too was detrimental to baseball—as it was. 4-20-47

Then there was the threatened "strike" instigated by some of the St. Louis Cards to avoid playing against ROBINSON and the mean riding and name-calling used against him for a time by Manager BEN CHAPMAN of the Philadelphia Nationals, both of which drew the instant fire of a League President FORD FRICK and, less promptly, of Commissioner CHANDLER, a native of Kentucky. Through it all JACKIE has remained cool and a gentleman, playing his position as best he could and thinking always of the good of the team of which he is an integral part.

During the game at St. Louis Saturday, to quote from ROSCOE MCGOWEN's *New York Times* story (in most southern dailies you have to read the lineups to know that JACKIE is even in the games, most of the time):

"A throng of 35,510 fans, a record crowd for the season here, was treated to innumerable thrills, not the least of which was an extraordinary catch of VERNAL JONES' foul by JACKIE ROBINSON to end the threatening Cardinal eighth. Journal & Guide

"JACKIE caught the twisting foul on the edge of the Brooklyn dugout steps and was saved from a bad fall when big RALPH BRANCA caught him as he was tumbling. HAL GREGG, who had replaced LOMBARDI on the mound, was so relieved and elated that he rushed over to pound JACKIE on the chest in gratitude for the catch."

That's the kind of player and the kind of man JACKIE ROBINSON is. He has won the hearts of uncounted baseball fans and the respect and perhaps the affection of most of his opponents and teammates.

There's a sermon in all this somewhere.

JACKIE ROBINSON—ACTOR — New York—In dressing room at Harlem's Apollo Theatre which he is appearing with a musical comedy group, Jackie Robinson—rookie of the year—waits in dressing room with his wife while stage fright wears off. It is the baseball players first theater appearance. Following his run at the Apollo he will appear in Washington and Chicago before going to Hollywood to work on a motion picture in which he will be starred.—Keystone Photo.

# ...SPORT-LIGHT...

JOHN I. JOHNSON, Sports Editor
The Call Kansas City, Mo.

## MRS. JACKIE ROBINSON TALKS BASEBALL

Perhaps the women are right when they say it is their lot to suffer most in this world of tears and sorrows, that their burdens are the heavier, and that a man never, never knows just what women have to go through, and that he is so constituted that he'll never know.

Personally, we always grinned whenever we heard this lament coming from the sad-faced sisters, and thought it a mere bid for sympathy or something.

But Mrs. Jackie (Rachel Isum) Robinson, wife of the Brooklyn Dodger first baseman, rings true when she tells of the fears and doubts she felt when her brilliant ball-playing husband played his first game with the Dodgers versus Boston at Ebbets Field.

Talking to Joan Crosby of New York in an interview, Mrs. Robinson said: Fri. 7-11-47

"I know that Jackie was nervous and tense in that game. But it seemed to me that no human being could have more anxiety than I had. In addition to my own tenseness and anxiety, I was loaded with the sympathetic reactions I picked up from Jackie. I felt that if Jackie could only get one hit it would boost his morale and thereby take a tremendous weight off my shoulders."

## SHE WALKED WHILE JACKIE PLAYED

Mrs. Robinson said that she had difficulty in sitting through a game. She usually walked about the stadiums, listening to fan comments.

"Fans didn't realize I was Jackie's wife," she explained. "So I was in a position to hear what they said as I wandered about. Some of the things I heard were good, others were not so pleasant. Some persons called Jackie the best first baseman they'd ever seen. Others said that he would never make a first baseman. I had no quarrel with either statement. I was only glad that my husband was being judged on his ability to play baseball and not on his race." Fri. 7-11-47

"'Jackie," she said, "never gets discouraged. Not even last year when he was with Montreal, because he figures more people are for him than against him.

"I went down to spring training headquarters in Florida last season and we both expected some trouble there. I had to sit in jim crow stands and I couldn't hear any remarks the fans passed. However, in Baltimore, the first time around, some of the fans screamed some terrible things. It was a night game and I think I was about the only Negro in the stands. The man sitting right next to me seemed to be the loudest of the group and he called Jackie some horrible names.

"There wasn't anything I could say, but I took it all personally. I couldn't be philosophical that night."

Since the earlier games, Mrs. Robinson said the fans are giving her husband, the first Negro to play in the modern major leagues, a big break by judging him only as a player, and she bases her belief on the comments of spectators, for she still walks about with all ears open.

## FANS KEEP PULLING FOR JACKIE

"It's wonderful the way they are pulling for Jackie to make good. Jackie gets an amazing amount of fan mail. The writers nearly always designate their race while at the same time wishing him luck," she said. "The majority of the letters from white fans indicate they're on Jackie's side, although some crank letters arrive. We always dismiss these by saying that they come very prejudiced people. "

The players' wives are cordial to her, she said. After the first month of the season she became acquainted with the wives of the Dodger players. One of them, Mrs. Clyde King, asked her if she wasn't Jackie's wife. When she answered yes, Mrs. King took her down under the stands and showed her where the wives usually wait for their husbands and introduced her to the other girls.

"I've met most of them," said Mrs. Robinson. "And they're all congenial. When they gossip I join right in and gossip with them. Of course, they're more intimate when by themselves. Most of them live near each other and they get together when the boys are on the road and that gives them a better chance to get acquainted."

Mrs. Robinson, who met Jackie at UCLA when she was a freshman and he a senior, said that Jackie Jr., now seven months old, likes baseball, or at least likes the crowds that attend games. Fri. 7-11-47

## LEAGUE PLAYERS NEED MORE THAN ABILITY

She attended UCLA two years and then went to California hospital at Berkeley from which she graduated as a trained nurse. Later she did orthopedic work at the Hospital for Joint Diseases in New York.

But for all her training she said that Jackie does not let her dress his scratches and bruises collected in ball games. He prefers to follow the trainers' advice, she said.

Mrs. Robinson is proud of her husband. She thinks he is doing a grand job.

"I believe Jackie, with his good conduct, sportsmanship and playing ability has opened the way for other Negroes to enter organized baseball. But for a long time Negroes who make good in baseball will need a lot more than just the playing ability that other major league players have.

"They'll have to be well educated and have good character traits. I guess it's true in all professions that when a member of our race succeeds he has to be way above the others."

While Robinson's batting average soars and he continues to play brilliantly on the field, nearly every game, his wife is up in th stands listening and pulling for him, sympathetic to all the reactions he feels and bearing his burdens plus her own anxiety for his success.

# ...SPORT-LIGHT...

JOHN I. JOHNSON, Sports Editor
The Call Kansas City, Mo.

## Lynch Mobs Don't Always Wear Hoods

BY JIMMY CANNON Fri. 5-30-47
America's Ace Sports Writer

(Sport-Light is proud to present this epic article written by Jimmy Cannon of the New York Post. It has been called one of the finest sports articles ever written by an American journalist. It has appeared in several Eastern newspapers and won instant praise).

RE-PRINTED BY COURTESY OF THE NEW YORK POST

You don't always lynch a man by hanging him from a tree. There is a great lynch mob among us and they go unhooded and work without the rope. They have no leader but their own hatred of humanity. They are the quietly degraded, who plot against the helpless with skill and a coward's stealth and without fear of reprisal. Their weapon is as painful as the lash, the hot tar, the noose or the shotgun. They string up a man with the whisper of a lie and they persecute him with ridicule. They require no burning cross as a signal of assembly and need no sheet to identify themselves to each other. They are the night riders who operate 24 hours a day.

They lynch a man with a calculated contempt which no court of law can consider a crime. Such a venomous conspiracy is the one now trying to run Jackie Robinson out of organized baseball. It does not go for all ball players and not even all the St. Louis Cards, some of whom are accused of trying to arrange a strike to protest against the presence of a Negro in the big league. But such a state exists and we should all be ashamed of it, not only those connected with the sport, but any one who considers this his country. It is an indication, I believe, that as a people we are a failure and not as good as the laws by which we live.

We are a people guaranteed more freedoms than any other on earth. Yet there are among us some who would refute those documents which pledge us the things that people fight for everywhere and rarely achieve. When

such persecutions become the aim of a government it is the record of history that men rise in revolt against the leaders of their state. It was to defeat such persecutions that men fought in the undergrounds of Europe and in every righteous army since man first realized freedom is seldom achieved without struggle. We are a people who consider such privileges as ordinary because they were written down in the book for us to live by long ago. But among us are those who consider these liberties as their own and would take them from the defenseless whom they can afford to torment. They form a lynch mob that is out to avenge a right. Fri. 5-30-47

Only the stupidly bold among them collect on mountain sides by the light of torches. You find them wherever you go and their lodge is national although they pay no dues and carry no card. It is only natural that baseball, being our country's sport, should be played by some of them because they are in all trades and professions and they carry an invisible rope with them at all times. It is my belief that such a philosophy of hate does not dominate baseball. If it does, then they should burn up all the bats and balls and turn cattle to graze on the outfield grass. Baseball is not a way of life but an escape from it. It is to the bleachers and the grandstands that the multitudes flee to forget the world beyond the fences. Such a haven should not be corrupted by senseless hate, but once it is, baseball has no reason to exist.

Baseball is supported by the people and I have heard them demand justice for Robinson. If their applause is any indication, they ask that Robinson be accepted as an athlete and is entitled to the right too be judged by the scorer's ledger and not by the prejudices of indecent men. It is my belief that Robinson is a big leaguer of ordinary ability. If he is not, then he should be sent down to the minors because it is the opinion of all of us who consider baseball a sport that skill and honesty are the only qualifications a man should have. It is doubtful if Robinson has yet shown his true worth. He came up as a shortstop, was transformed into a second baseman at Montreal and now is playing first. It is a tribute to his solidness as a man that he hasn't fallen apart as a ball player. Less heart has burned better ball players out of the big leagues. He is the most discussed ball player of his time and his judges do not evaluate him for his actions on the field alone. But he has concealed the turmoil within him and when you talk to him there is no indication he regards himself as a special man who faces problems no other big leaguer ever faced before. The times I have spoken to him he has praised all those with whom he plays.

What goes on in the privacy of the hotel rooms where the Dodgers gather I don't know. I have listened to Eddie Stanky praise Robinson for his alertness. Jackie told me himself that Hughie Casey had helped him when he needed practice and advice on making the difficult plays a first baseman must face.

But in the clubhouse Robinson is a stranger. The Dodgers are polite and courteous with him but it is obvious he is isolated by those with whom he plays. I have never heard remarks made against him or detected any rudeness where he was concerned. But the silence is loud and Robinson never is part of the jovial and aimless banter of the locker room. He is the loneliest man I have ever seen in sports. Fri. 5-30-47

We have been involved in a war to guarantee all people the right to a life without fear. The peoples of the earth are still assailed by the same doubts and terror. The old men once more talk of violence and only the dead are sure of peace. In such a world it seems a small thing that a man be able to play a game unmolested. In a time such a plea should be unnecessary. But when it happens we must again remember that all this country's enemies are not beyond the frontiers of our home land.

ROBINSON LAUDED

# Jackie and Wife Honored in Chicago

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md
Sat. 11-15-47

CHICAGO—(ANP)— Chicagoan had an opportunity to expres their appreciation for Jackie Robinson and his accomplishments thi past year, Thursday night and the did it in magnificent style at banquet held in his honor at th Savoy Ballroom.

Jackie warmed the hearts of hi audience as he responded and expressed apprciation not alone fo his gift but for the manner i which Chicago fans had rallie to his support, indeed fans all ove the country. He said that the tremendous turnout of colored fans all over the circuit had been mos impressive to league owners.

**Pays Tribute to Wife**

Jackie admitted that he had frequently been given a tough roa to travel, that gibes and insults discrimination of various sorts no on the part of his clubmates bu in areas where he had to travel had at times made him feel h would like to chuck the whol thing and go home. 11-15-47

"My strongest support during these trials, however," said Jackie "was my wife. She travelled with me constantly. She always had the wise suggestion, the comforting touch, the encouragement to go on which carried me through." Sat. 11-15-47

Mrs. Robinson was given an award by the "Smart Woman" magazine as the smartest woman of the year and received an ovation as she rose and in cultured, yet simple words voiced her appreciation of the honor paid her husband and her surprise at the award made to her.

# LET'S TAKE IT IN STRIDE

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

By WILLIAM G. NUNN,
Managing Editor. Sat. 4-19-47

The "Iron Curtain" which has prevented Negroes from participation in major league baseball has finally been lifted!

Jackie Robinson, 27-year-old athlete . . . with the mental and physical equipment necessary to make the grade . . . has been accepted as a member of the Brooklyn Dodgers baseball club.

The events which have transpired since The Courier's Wendell Smith launched his first blast at an un-American practice back in 1939 have been epochal. This newspaper takes pardonable pride in the role it played in "lifting the curtain" . . . in banishing for all time the invisible "color-line" which made a monopoly of one of the major business enterprises in the United States.

Organized baseball is BIG BUSINESS . . . make no mistake about it. And one of the reasons Negroes couldn't make the grade, despite their ability, has been the money angle.

Branch Rickey, God-fearing, courageous, powerful, influential head of the far-flung Brooklyn baseball empire, has done his part . . . decency and fair play, two inherent American characteristics.

AND NOW . . . the real challenge faces Negro America!

The challenge of taking this tremendous victory in stride!

The challenge to keep our big mouths closed and give Jackie the chance to PROVE he's major league calibre!

The challenge to conduct ourselves at these ball games in the recognized American way!

The challenge to NOT recognize the appearance of Jackie Robinson as the signal for a Roman holiday, with the Bacchanalian orgy complex! Sat. 4-19-47

The challenge to leave whiskey bottles at home or on the shelves of the liquor stores . . . and to leave our loud talking, obscene language and indecent dress on the outside of the ball parks.

The challenge to learn something about the game . . . in order that we will know what's going on out on the ball field, and won't humiliate Jackie by our lack of knowledge!

The challenge to stop our booing over some untoward incident which might happen on the ball field. Remember that Jackie . . . like a real American. What he did, under terrific pressure and strain, merits the prayerful thanks of millions of Americans, white as well as black.

Jackie Robinson, UCLA graduate and former Army lieutenant, has done his part . . . thus far. He measured up to all that was asked of him . . . he proved on the ball field that he had the ability, the resourcefulness, the personality, the courage, to "come through" when the chips were down. Jackie's conduct . . . on and off the field . . . gave Mr. Rickey the axe he needed to batter down the "iron curtain."

The Pittsburgh Courier, who first mentioned Jackie as a major league prospect and who followed his every move from the moment he first entered the ranks of organized baseball . . . has done its part, thus far. Sat. 4-19-47

The Courier interviewed ball players and managers to try and convince ONE owner that the spirit of Democracy in Sports would be questioned until Negroes were given the OPPORTUNITY to make the grade. The Courier fought its battle along the lines of . . . might be "roughed up" some, because that's the way they play in the majors . . . for keeps!

The challenge to refrain from holding "Jackie Robinson Days" until he's made the grade!

All of these things might distract his attention from the job he has ahead of him . . . and it's a full-time job, too!

Rather than "Jackie Robinson Days" . . . we believe it would be appropriate for civic groups, leaders, Negro newspapers and individuals to conduct "Good Conduct" days wherever the famous "Bums" appear. Sat. 4-19-47

Remember . . . today Negro America, whose symbol is Jackie Robinson . . . is on trial! Mr. Rickey opened the door, and Jackie's foot is in!

Whether he meets this latest challenge will depend largely on how you act . . . whether you take it "in stride" . . . or whether you make fools of yourselves.

# Jackie Robinson second on Fidler poll of most popular Americans

Tribune
Sat. 11-8-47

Jackie Robinson is the second most popular American, according to movie commentator Jimmie Fidler. Fidler said this week that Robinson had moved into second place in a radio poll to determine the most popular person in the United States. Crooner Bing Crosby is first. Robinson ousted Frank Sinatra, pushing him into third place. Sat. 11-8-47

Fidler made the announcement . . . his weekly radio broadcast over ABC last Sunday at 7:30 p.m. He will tell the final result of his poll tomorrow night.

Los Angeles, Calif.

Robinson tops such people as: Father Flanagan, of Boys' Town, fourth; radio commentator Fulton Lewis Jr., fifth; Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, sixth; Al Jolson, 7th; Gen. Eisenhower, 8th; Gen. MacArthur, 9th; and Dr. Francis E. Townsend, old age pension advocate, 10th. Dr. Townsend last week replaced President Truman in 10th place.

# THE SPORTS BEAT

By WENDELL SMITH

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

## Fans Plead for Jackie's Autograph . . .

BROOKLYN—The Brooklyn Dodgers had just blasted the New York Yankees, 14 to 5, in the first of a three-game exhibition series, and now the players on both teams were rushing madly for their respective clubhouses to avoid the maddening throng as it surged down out of the Ebbets Field stands and onto the playing field. Running off with the horde of Brooklyn idols was a powerfully built fellow. There was a grin on his bronze face as he reached the dugout and disappeared through the tunnel that leads to the dressing room.

"Grab Jackie Robinson," cried a hysterical woman fan standing on top of the Dodger dugout. "Don't let him get away before I get his autograph." Now the maniacs were leaping over the box seat rail and trying to force their way past a squadron of policemen who were blocking the entrance to the dugout tunnel. "Please let me go through," begged a ruddy-faced youngster. "I promised my father I'd bring home Robinson's autograph."

But the big line of policemen refused to budge. They held the line, and now Jackie Robinson was safe in the clubhouse with the rest of the Dodgers. After a short wait, the guardian of the clubhouse door pulled it open and a battery of newspapermen and photographers swarmed into the room. The wave of heat from the shower room hit them full in the face as they marched through the fog of steam floating out of the showers. Jackie Robinson was sitting on a chair. One shoe was already off and both stockings rolled to the ankles. He was smiling happily and wiping his copper-colored brow with a big white towel. Sat. 4-19-47

"Well," asked one writer, "how does it feel to be a big leaguer?"

Robinson's dark brown eyes danced happily and he smiled easily—almost gratefully—when he replied: "Gee, fellows, it's great!" The writers smiled knowingly and moved in a bit closer. Robinson's answer was an old one. He had said just what all rookies say their first day against major league competition. And they all smile, and they all seem just a bit awed at the thought of it.

"Were you surprised," another reporter asked, "when they announced that you would play today against the Yanks?" In a way, that was an absurd question. Only twelve hours before, this dark-skinned kid from Pasadena, Calif., had been a minor leaguer. He had been playing first base against the Dodgers. Only the color of his skin and the possibility that he might become a big leaguer some day made him any different than any other minor leaguer. Then suddenly he was no longer a minor leaguer. He became a big leaguer! Branch Rickey merely waved his fast, hairy hand—like a fairy godmother—and transformed him from a "busher" to the big leagues.

Was he surprised!

"Sure I was surprised," Brooklyn's new first baseman said. "I was as surprised as I could be."

"Did you know it before they announced it over the public address system," asked a reporter from The Associated Press.

"Oh, yes," Jackie said. "We had a meeting in the dressing room. We were all sitting there and Clyde Sukeforth was giving us a pep talk. He was saying that although this was an exhibition game, we'd have to play just as hard as ever to win it, because the Yankees have a good team."

The writers were scribbling madly now in their little pocket-sized notebooks. They were taking down everything he said, like court stenographers at a big murder trial.

* * *

## Asks About Jackie . . .

"Sukeforth was talking about the Yankees," Robinson continued, "and telling us how to play the different hitters, and telling the pitchers what to throw and what not to throw at certain hitters. Then suddenly, out of a clear blue sky, he stopped . . . He looked over the bunch of players sitting in front of me and said—'Robinson, how are you feeling today?' The question was popped so fast I was startled at first. When I finally answered, I said I felt fine.

"Sukeforth said: 'Okay, then you're playing first base for us today!'"

One of the writers asked Jackie what he did then. "What did you do?" the reporter asked. "That must have been a big surprise. Not too many hours before that you had been playing against the Dodgers and now you were going to play with them."

Robinson thought for a moment. He seemed to be trying to get his thoughts in order, like a person who has been in a deep sleep and awakened suddenly. He draped the big white towel around his shoulders and burst out laughing. It was a good, hearty laugh. Sat. 4-19-47

"Why I just sorta' gulped," he said.

"You gulped?" two or three asked at the same time.

"Yeah," he said, rubbing his throat as if to show where it happened. "I just gulped!"

Robinson then sat down and started to take off the heavy, woolen stockings that all big leaguers wear.

"Where you frightened when you walked out on the field to play against the Yankees?" he was asked.

"No, I wasn't," he said quickly. "I felt real good. Before the game a number of the Brooklyn players came up to me and shook my hand. Fellows that I played with last year in Montreal like Tom Tatum, Dixie Howell and some others shook my hand and congratulated me. They said they were glad to have me on the team."

"Bet that made you feel good," someone said.

"It sure did," Jackie replied. "It helped a lot. I felt much better and I lost some of the tense feeling that was gripping me."

By this time the protographers were taking over. Robinson had to put most of his uniform back on so that he could pose with Clyde Sukeforth, who has been directing the team since Durocher left.

* * *

## Praised by Sukeforth . . .

"He's going to be alright," Sukeforth assured the audience. "He's a great ball player and will prove it as soon as he gets adjusted. He can hit, run and field. He's a great all-round athlete and can't miss."

Finally, some of the commotion died down and Robinson got a chance to slip into the shower room and bathe. Not long afterwards he was dressed and ready to leave. But when he emerged from the dressing room, he was mobbed by fans who had been standing outside. With considerable modesty he agreed to sign score cards and other such autograph treasures. He politely acknowledged that he knew or remembered the countless admirers who came up to him and said such things as: "Say, don't you remember me. I'm Jim Smith from the Coast. I met you when you were at UCLA." Although he only remembered a few, Robinson played his role perfectly, because he didn't want anyone to think he'd forgotten them. "Sure I do," he'd say. "That was a long time ago, wasn't it?"

When he finally reached the street, he was mobbed again. There seemed to be a thousand people standing directly outside that door. When he stepped out, they gave a deafening roar and surged upon him. Despite the efforts of another squadron of police, he was absorbed in a sea of slapping hands and was literally carried away. Flash bulbs were exploded with machinegun-like rapidity and the whole world seemed to be screaming in unison: "Jackie Robinson!"

He finally made his way to the car which was to take him to his hotel. But it was a hard struggle. They almost pulled his clothes off him. They pushed him in all directions at the same time, trying desperately to get his autograph. They screamed and hollered like people who had escaped a concentration camp. They stepped on his feet and some begged him to merely cast a look in their direction. Sat. 4-19-47

"That's the price of fame," someone said as he climbed into Courier Protographer Billy Rowe's automobile.

"Yeah," Jackie said with a deep sigh of relief. "Boy, they really swamped me, didn't they?"

"Well, you're a big leaguer now, Jackie," somebody else pointed out. "They're your fans and the people who help pay your salary."

"Yep," the Brooklyn first baseman said, "and I love 'em. Every darn one of 'em!"

**And that's the story of Robinson's first day in the major leagues.**

The New York Times

# BROOKS WIN BY 10-5 WITH 2 BIG INNINGS

## Daring Base Running Sets Up Four Runs in First and Five in Fifth Against Braves

N.Y. N.Y.

## ROBINSON STARTS RALLIES

Thur 8-14-47

## His Safe Bunts Upset Defense —King Triumphs as Dodger Lead Rises to 3½ Games

By JOSEPH M. SHEEHAN

Speed of foot, the first thing Branch Rickey looks for in a ball player, paid off for the Dodgers yesterday. With uninhibited base running playing a big part, the Brooks defeated the Braves, 10 to 5, before 25,684 paying spectators at Ebbets Field, thus stretching to three-and-a-half games their lead over the idle Cardinals.

On the same number of hits as their rivals—ten—and five fewer total bases, the National League leaders doubled the scoring total of the Beantown squad. Calculated abandon on the basepaths that forced costly Boston errors featured both big Brooklyn innings —the four-run first and the five-run fifth.

Jackie Robinson launched the latter rally, as he had the one in the opening frame, by beating out an artful bunt. Peter Reiser followed with a single to left on which Robinson held up at second. Then Dixie Walker rapped a grounder at Connie Ryan, whose hasty toss to force the fleet Reiser was muffed by Nanny Fernandez.

### Furillo Belts Pinch Single

With the bases filled, Carl Furillo was sent in to bat against the left-handed Clyde Shoun and, on his single to center, Robinson and Reiser raced home. Walker took a big lead off second with Bruce Edwards at bat and, when Phil Masi tried to pick him off, Dixie broke for third.

He slid in for a stolen base and Furillo moved to second when Fernandez' throw hit Walker as he was sliding for another error. Edwards was walked to fill the bases again. Johnny Jorgensen forced him at second with a grounder to third but blocked a double play by fast stepping down to first as Walker scored. Thur 8-14-47

Peewee Reese then singled to left, driving Furillo home. When Bama Rowell, hustling to keep Jorgensen from moving around to third, kicked the ball around, the Brooklyn third sacker kept going and crossed the plate standing up for the fifth tally.

That uprising occurred at a crucial point, for, in their half of the fifth, the Braves had shelled out Harry Taylor, the Brooklyn starter, to take a 5-4 lead. With two out Tommy Holmes and Johnny Hopp singled. Successive home runs by Rowell, over the right-field screen, and Bob Elliott, into the lower left-field stand, followed.

### King Strikes Out Four Men

Clyde King, summoned to the rescue when Taylor blew up, allowed only three scattered singles and struck out four in his four and one-third innings of service. He gained credit for the victory.

Manager Billy Southworth of Boston threw six pitchers into action. Johnny Sain, started but retired only Eddie Stanky, first man to face him.

After Stanky had struck out, Robinson dropped a bunt toward third. Sain handled it and, when he threw late and wildly to first, Jackie hotfooted it around to third. Reiser walked and Walker hit a roller to first which went for a hit when Earl Torgeson, preoccupied with the problem of holding Robinson on third, forgot he had to beat Dixie to the base.

Gene Hermanski's looping single to short left scored Robinson. Then Edwards sent Sain to the showers with a savage double to left that drove home Reiser and Walker. Against Walter Lanfranconi, Jorgensen's fly to right tallied Hermanski. Thur 8-14-47

An error by Reese on Hopp's grounder, an infield out and Elliott's single gave the Braves a run in the first. The Dodgers scored their final tally in the sixth when Reiser singled, stole second and raced across on Furillo's single.

# Senator Is Given Report on Jackie

WASHINGTON, — (ANP) — Jackie Robinson is getting along fine with the Brooklyn Dodgers baseball fans, Sen. Donnell (R., of Mo.) was told last Friday.

The senator brought the matter up at a senate public welfare subcommittee hearing on legislation to set up a national commission against discrimination in employment.

Sandy F. Ray, Brooklyn Negro, chairman of the social service commission of the National Baptist convention, was testifying in support of the bill. Donnell interrupted to ask how Robinson is being received in Brooklyn.

Ray said he had sat among white persons at several ball games to observe their ttitude toward Robinson. He said there was some "little reaction against him at first," but that generally "people seem to be pulling more for Jackie than for the others."

Incidentally Robinson's batting average is beginning to climb above the .300 mark while the batting average of other "heroes" on the team are shrinking.

# Robinson Gets 2 Hits, 1 Circuit Blow

*The Black Dispatch*

PITTSBURGH, July — (NNPA) — Jackie Robinson, Brooklyn Dodger first baseman, last Saturday got two hits out of four times up, one of them a home run. the Dodgers winning the game in the ninth, 6-4, after the Pittsburgh Pirates had tied the count, 4-all, in the seventh.

*Oklahoma City, Okla*

With Ralph Branca, Dodgers pitcher, on the paths, and with two out and two strikes on him, Robinson got his seventh homer of the season in the third off the scoreboard. In all the scored two runs, batted in two more, and made eleven putouts. *Sat 8-9-47*

A double steal was attempted in the sixth with Carl Durillo on first and Jackie on third. Dixie Walker threw his bat at the ball for a third strike and Robinson was finally doubled after a long run-down, being tagged out at the plate by Preacher Roe, Pirate pitcher.

In the nightcap of a doubleheader which the Dodgers won from the Pirates last Sunday, 8-4 and 11-4, Jackie got his eighth home run of the season. He hit it in the seventh over the left field barrier off Jim Bagby. Ernie Bonham, working in the bullpen, caught it.

At bat a total of nine times in the doubleheader, Robinson got three hits, a sacrifice, scored four runs, two in each game, and batted in three runs, all in the nightcap. He made eight putouts in the opener and seven in the nightcap.

In three days here the Dodgers played before 102,336 fans. A capacity crowd of 42,716 watched them win Sunday's doubleheader.

# Robinson "Incidents" Fewer, National Magazine States

*Atlanta Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.*

"If you were Jackie Robinson," says the current issue of Sports Magazine, "you'd notice that every day there were fewer 'incidents,' that every day you were getting better breaks from the fans, the players and the press." *Sat. 8-23-47*

In a revealing story of Jackie's historic making of the big time in baseball, Sports states that Robinson's obstacles are steadily declining but that he still has many lonely moments.

Summing up Jackie's first months in baseball, the story written by Roscoe McGowen of the New York Times, who covers the Dodgers, points out that the Brooklyn star knows by now that the sweat he is pouring into his efforts to pave the way for members of his race in major league baseball isn't being wasted. *Sat. 8-23-47*

"Some nice things have happened," Jackie told McGowen. "It was nice of Hank Greenberg to speak to me as he did once when I pulled up at first base.

"'You're doing fine,' he told me—'keep your chin up.' He's a fine gentleman." *Sat. 8-23-47*

According to Sport, Robinson is paying quite a price for the privilege of playing baseball in the major leagues but he thinks it well worth the price.

# Jackie's Break Fulfills 40-yr. promise of Rickey to Negro

*Sat. 8-2-47*

*Tribune Los Angeles, Calif.*

CHICAGO — When Jackie Robinson stepped onto Ebbets field in his spanking new Brooklyn Dodger suit last Spring to be the first Negro to play a game of ball in the major leagues, it was the fulfillment of a 40-year-old promise Branch Rickey had made to Charles L. Thomas, now a practicing dentist in Albuquerque, N. M., but then (1901) a grid mate of Rickey's at Ohio Wesleyan, acording to Mark Harris in the September issue of the Negro Digest. *Sat. 8-2-47*

Author of "Trumpet to the World" Harris writes that "Tommy," as Rickey calls him, was the only Negro on the team, was the first to play against many of the lily-whites of the day, and that the "raw prejudice and ribald riding he got from some of the white opposition" was a continual source of anger to him (Rickey)

The payoff came in 1905 in South Bend, Ind., when a hotel refused to accomodate "Tommy" and Rickey laid a pallet in his own room for him. Then and there, says author Harris, Rickey promised "Tommy" that someday he'd do something to defeat discrimination.

"I'm not claiming credit for Jackie's (break)", "Tommy" is quoted as saying, "that's Rick's doing. But I know his early experience with prejudice helped a lot."

# Jackie Robinson Hard To Pick Out, Or Is He?

*Chicago Defender, Ill.*

Frank Young, Defender sports editor, recently called a picture service and ordered an action photograph of Jackie Robinson in a coming game between the Cubs and the Dodgers. The clerk told him she did not think a photographer could pick Robinson out of the lineup. Young insisted that a photographer should be able to find the only Negro on the team, whereupon the clerk agreed and took the order. *Sat. 5-31-47*

# Jackie Robinson To Make Motion Picture

*Atlanta Daily World, Ga.*

Brooklyn, N. Y., —(SNS)— Jackie Robinson, Brooklyn's great first baseman has signed a contract with General Artists Corporation to make a motion picture immediately after the Brooklyn Dodgers baseball season ends. *Fri. 8-22-47*

The film, in which the brillant performer will star, wil ldeal with the problem of juvenile delinquency.

# Dodger President Says Robinson's Playing Is Okay

*Chicago Defender, Chicago, Illinois*

*Sat. 6-14-47*

BROOKLYN — Satisfaction with the playing of Jackie Robinson, Brooklyn Dodger first baseman, was expressed last Wednesday by Branch Rickey, Dodger president.

Introducing each member of the Dodger ball club at the annual baseball luncheon given by the Brooklyn Rotary Club for the Dodgers in the Hotel St. George, upon reaching Robinson, Rickey declared: *Sat. 6-14-47*

"Jackie came into our club in a very new position. Under the circumstances he's done very well."

Formerly a shortstop, Robinson played second base last season for the Montreal Royals of the International League and when he joined the Dodgers in spring training he was switched to first base where he has played every game since the major league season opened.

# AFRO Not Alone in Booming Jackie for 'Rookie of the Year' Honors

*Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.*

*Sat. 8-30-47*

NEW YORK — Joining the AFRO's contention that Jackie Robinson, barring unforseen misfortune, should be awarded "rookie of the year" honors, last week was Steve Snider, a United Press syndicate writer.

In an article booming the Brooklyn Dodger first baseman, he said:

"He leads the front-running Bums in total basehits and has stolen more bases than all the Chicago Clubs lumped together. Further:

"'Jackie is fielding first base like an old timer,' said Eddie Stanky, the pesky dynamo of Brooklyn's infield. 'Everything a great first-baseman should learn to do, he's learning—and fast. Coming in on bunts, you never saw such speed.'

"And only a little while back, as Robinson was making his first swing around the National League, one long-time major league manager pointed out that Jackie would be the rookie of the year if he was good enough just to stick with the club all year. *Sat. 8-30-47*

"The pressure on him, from players and the public alike, was a strain no other player in history had been asked to shoulder. A natural second baseman, he suddenly found himself at first for the first time in his life. And, after all, he is playing only his second season in organized baseball.

Like any rookie, Robinson makes mistakes but, muffing or starring, he is the only first baseman Manager Burt Shotton has started this season. Robinson is the only Brook who has played every game.

"More important is the fact that Robinson plugged a hole that probably cost the Brooks the pennant last season. Firse base was a touchier subject with Branch Rickey last summer than a block of unsold seats. When he sought an answer he looked first for a man with speed and if there's anything jackie loves better than baseball itself it's running. *Sat. 8-30-47*

"That boy loves to run—and Rickey places speed above everything in evaluating a player."

HE'S AT IT AGAIN! Jackie Robinson, Brooklyn Dodger first-sacker, dumps a bunt down the third base line for a hit at Ebbets Field. Pittsburgh third baseman, Frank Gustine rushed in and pounced on the ball but heaved frantically in an effort to nail Robbie at first, the ball going wild and enabling Jackie to reach second. The Dodgers went on to win the game, 11-10. Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 9-6-47

# Jackie Robinson Continues Superb Play; Batting 300

Atlanta Daily World. Atlanta Ga. 8-26-47 Tues.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—(SNS)—Jackie Robinson continued his superb all-around play, banging out two hits including his second triple in two consecutive days, and scoring two runs, as the Brooklyn Dodgers nosed out the Pittsburgh Pirates, in an 11-10 slugfest, Monday afternoon, before more than 20,000 fans at Ebbets Field. 8-26-47 Tues.

Sunday, more than 33,000 fans jammed Ebbets Field to see the Brooks let the Pirates down in a 3-1 thriller. Robinson's only hit, a triple off the left center field wall in the fifth with on out was wasted, when Pete Reiser grounded out to Hank Greenberg and Arky Vaughan was tossed out by Cox.

**BATTING COOL .300**

Saturday, the Brooklyn first baseman had a perfect day at bat hitting three for three to run his batting average to a cool .300. When the official batting averages were computed after Wednesday's game, for release over the past week-end, Robinson was hitting .299.

Then he went hitless in five trips and dropped to .295. The perfect day at bat sent his average to .300, including Saturday's game.

In Saturday's contest, when the Dodgers beat the Cincinnati Reds, 8-5 before, 30,041 cash customers, Robinson touched the Redleg hurlers for three singles. On his first hingle the Brooklyn star stole second, his 22 thef tof the year and came home on Reiser's single to center. 8-26-47 Tues.

**DODGERS ROUT EWELL BLACKWELL**

The highlight of the series between the Dodgers and the Reds was the sensational 8-1 victory over Ewell "Whitney" Blackwell, the outstanding pitcher of the year, who was gunning for his twentieth win, including three straight decisions over Brooklyn.

The Reds' only run came in the second inning, when Augie Galan got on base on Robinson's error; went to third on Ray Lamanno's single and scored on an infield fly. 8-26-47 Tues.

In the fifth, Eddie Stanky punched a double to right to send two runs across the plate and came in himself when Zientara booted Robinson's hard shot to second. Robinson stole second and went to third on Poland's wild throw. Then Reiser singled to bring Robinson home.

Robinson's batting average through 23 August is as follows:

| AB | H. | R | 2B |
|---|---|---|---|
| 484 | 145 | 105 | 26 |

| 3B | HR. | RBI | Pct. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 9 | 38 | .300 |

# Cub Pilot, Charley Grimm, Has High Praise for Jackie Robinson

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

CHICAGO (ANP)—At least one manager in the National League is convinced that Jackie Robinson is a slick operator. That person is Charlie Grimm, headman of the Chicago Cubs.

Grimm said here last week that "It's been a long time since we've had one man in the league who has an upsetting effect on every infield whenever he gets on base. Robinson makes 'em all squirm.

"After all, he takes such a good lead that you got to make a play for him. You've got to try and pick him off. He sets up the play himself and there's no choice but to make him take back a step or two." 9-13-47

**Recalls Pepper Martin**

He said that Jackie reminded him of Pepper Martin, the Cardinals' Indian player of more than a decade ago. "That gentleman would run right through the pitcher's box and dare you to tag him if you didn't try to keep him where he belongs. He just loved to get on base for the confusion it could create." Sat.

Both Robinson and Martin have one thing in common, according to Grimm. It's not the bases they steal, but rather the nervous tension engendered in the defense, which in turn, can touch off a series of costly misplays springing from an overanxiety to keep the player under control.

Both Robinson and Martin have one thing in common, according to Grimm. It's not the bases they steal but rather the nervous tension engendered in the defense, which in turn, can touch off a series of costly misplays springing from an over anxiety to keep the player under control. Tues. 9-9-47

Through his quiet, but spectacular season's play with the Dodgers, Jackie has propelled himself in the lead for first base position on the 1947 all-rookie ball club. His record shows that out of 573 trips to the plate, he scored 111 runs, had 154 hits, 9 home-runs batted in 39 runs for a percentage of .300. Only Johnny Mize, Giant first sacker, has scored more runs than Jackie. The difference between the two is that Mize often goes around the bases at a slow trot on one of those long balls, while Robinson generally makes the circuit on nothing more than a single or a double.

Incidentally, according to leading baseball figures, Robinson has a stranglehold on the rookie of the year award for his season's play.

## Robinson Tops Says Cubs' Grimm

Atlanta Daily World

CHICAGO — (ANP) — At least one manager in the National league's baseball circuit is confinced that Jackie Robinson, rookie first-baseman of the Brooklyn Dodgers, is a slick operator. That person is Charlie Grimm, headman of the Chicago Cubs. Atlanta, Ga.

Grimm said here last week that "It's been a long time since we've had one man in the league who has an upsettign effect on every infield whenever he gets on base. Robinson makes 'em all squirm.

"After all, he takes such a good lead that you got to make a play for him. You've got to try and pick him off. He sets up the play himself and there is no choice but to make him take back a step or two."

He said that Jackie reminded him of "Pepper" Martin, the Cardinals' Indian player of more than a decade ago. "That gentleman would run right through the pitcher's bo run right through the pitcher's box and dare you to tag him if you did not try to keep him where hebe-longs. He just loved to get on base for the confusion it could create."

## Baseball Note

Journal & Guide

JACKIE ROBINSON has been doing better than average playing during the past several weeks, but to know this one has to read the box scores, printed in fine type. Norfolk, Va. Sat. 8-23-47

ROBINSON's playing is not spectacular but it is consistently good. His record as a first-baseman has been almost flawless. He is among the top rookies of the year and leads the league in bases stolen. Nevertheless, it is hard to know that ROBINSON was in a game unless one reads a newspaper in New York, or, as said above, reads the box scores. His name never gets into the headlines down this way, no matter how well he performs.

Friday night, the 15th, the Dodgers won over the Phillies by an eight to one score. ROBINSON was at bat five times, made four hits and scored two runs. He hit a two-bagger, stole two bases and figured in one double-play. No other player on the Brooklyn team made four hits.

That kind of playing usually gets the player somewhere in the headlines. But not so in JACKIE's case. But it does not matter with JACKIE or his well-wishers. Sat. 8-23-47

If JACKIE ROBINSON ever noticed the headlines, or even felt slighted while either his playing or in his attitude. so many of his teammates were being He is in there playing ball, and play-played up, it has not been reflected in ing for his team—not for JACKIE ROBINSON.

Should JACKIE aid his team to win the pennant that will be glory enough for him. Every day he exemplifies the qualities of a good ball player, a gentleman and a good sport. And it is apparent that his teammates recognize these qualities in him.

# Robinson Scintillating on Basepaths as Dodgers Wage Battle for NL Flag

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md. Sat. 8-23-47

PHILADELPHIA

Last week, the nation's press hailed Jackie Robinson as the greatest base-runner since the immortal Ty Cobb, star of the Detroit Tigers of some 15 years ago.

Last Saturday, playing in Shibe Park, the Brooklyn Dodgers' first-baseman justified all that had been said about him. He paced the league-leading Bums from Flatbush as they defeated the Phillies, 5-4, to increase their advantage over the second place Cardinals to 5½ games.

Jackie's first contribution was a dazzling sprint to second to stretch an ordinary sixth inning single to left into a double. He then danced about on second to pester Pitcher Oscar Judd into walking Pete Reiser and, later, executed a double steal along with Reiser to get into scoring position. His run, on Carl Furillo's blow tied the one-run lead set up by the Phillies in their fifth.

**Again Ties Score**

Again in the eighth, after the stubborn locals had gone into the lead, Jackie doubled, this time to right on a three-and-two pitch, and bounced home on Bruce Edwards's blow to center, marking the second time he had been responsible for deadlocking the score.

The earlier article on Robinson said:

"Jackie Robinson, Brooklyn's daring young man on the base paths, is being acclaimed as the greatest base runner the major leagues have seen since the departur of Ty Cobb.

"The rookie first-basaman, who . . . . has fallen off with the stick of late, has been keeping up his speed habits. Sat 8-23-47

"The National League's leading base stealers has not been pilfering many sacks lately, but has been harassing rival pitchers by seizing advantage of their lapses and grabbing that extra base on hits by teammates. Once on base, the Dodger speed demon is an immediate threat to the peace of the opposition.

"Robinson made two hits in Wednesday's 10-5 Dodger victory over the Boston Braves. Both times he reached base via bunts. Each time he unnerved the opposition so much that the Brooks followed with big scoring innings.

**Starts Scoring Spree**

"After Johnny Sain struck out Ed Stanky, Dodge leadoff batter, in the first inning, Robinson outlegged a bunt down the third-base line and when Sain, in his anxiety to nip the speedster, threw wild past first, Robinson raced all the way to third on the error.

"The Brooks followed with three more hits, sent Sain to the showers, and scored four runs.

"In the fifth inning, after the Braves had taken a 5-4 lead, Robinson crossed up the opposition with a push bunt toward second base as the entire left side of the infield swooped down him. Before Boston got out of the inning the Dodgers had scored five runs and taken a safe lead.

**Great Stealers Recalled**

There have been numerous speedsters in the big leagues between Cobb and Robinson, notably such base stealers lie Max Carey, Josh Devore, Ben Chapman and George Case, but none rode the base paths in the Robinson manner. Sat 8-23-47

"Here are some recent Robinson accomplishments:

1. Dashed all the way to second against Chicago Cubs on a fourth-ball wild pitch that went past the catcher.
2. Ran from first to third on a sacrifice and, when the Cubs left the latter base uncovered momentarily, continued home as the third-baseman failed to get back in time to handle the throw from first. Sat 8-23-47
3. Trapped off third by a sharp grounder to short, he engaged the Cardinals in such a lengthy rundown that Dixie Walker, the hitter, was able to get all the way to third.
4. Scored from second base as Billy Cox, Pittsburgh shortstop, threw out Carl Furillo on a hard-hit grounder."

# Robinson Named Year's Best Rookie by 'Sporting News'

P.M. New York, N.Y. Sun. 9-14-47

Jackie Robinson was just another rookie up from Montreal when he got into this rainy day card game. Now the Dodger first baseman has won honors as rookie of the year. *Associated Press Photo*

P.M.

ST. LOUIS

Jackie Robinson, the Dodgers' 28-year-old Negro first baseman, has been given the *Sporting News'* "Rookie of the Year" award.

The choice of Robinson, described by Editor J. G. Taylor Spink as "spectacularly outstanding," was on the basis of "stark baseball values," the paper said Friday.

"Robinson was rated and examined solely as a freshman player in the big leagues—on the basis of his hitting, his running, his defensive play, his team value," Spink wrote.

"The sociological experiment that Robinson represented, the trail-blazing he did, the barriers he broke down, did not enter into the decision." Sun. 9-14-47

Robinson joined the Dodgers last April from Montreal. He has laid down 42 successful bunts, 14 of them beaten out for hits and 28 sacrifiees. His stolen base total is 25. And he has hit 10 home runs.

He ran his batting average up to .377 in June when he exhibited a 21-game hitting streak, dropped to .253 in July and during August hit at a .311 clip. His present average is .297.

# Jackie Robinson says

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

## Injury to His Back Is An Old One; Successful Western Trip Means Flag

I tried to go through the entire season without missing a game but I didn't quite make it. Last winter I was playing golf and injured my back. I remember when it happened, but at that time I didn't pay much attention to it. When I swung around to drive off a tee, something in my back seemed to snap. It hurt a little then but I kept on playing. Sat. 9-13-47

When we went to Cuba for spring training I felt it again. One day it was so bad I could hardly bend over to catch ground balls. I laid off one day and then started back. The injury isn't serious, but it can be irritating.

We are now headed West and if we can win nine games on this trip we should be able to win the pennant. St. Louis is still playing good ball and we haven't too much of a lead, with five and a half games. One thing certain, we are getting better pitching. If that keeps up we're going to be hard to beat. There is a good chance that Harry Taylor will be in shape soon and that will help a lot. He's a good pitcher and we need him very much.

The fight to keep ahead of St. Louis is a nerve-wracking job. However, it's not as hard on us as it is on them. We are on top and will stay there if we play any kind of ball at all. The pressure is all on them. They must keep winning and hope at the same time that we lose. That puts a double strain on them. So, for the present at least, we have the advantage over them. Sat. 9-13-47

People are asking me to get them tickets for the World Series. I can't get any for my own family and naturally I can't help other people. The best thing to do is write to the Brooklyn Baseball Club and request them. It is best, however, to wait, because it could be that the World Series would be played elsewhere . . . if you get what I mean.

# Jackie Robinson To Films

Chicago Defender, Chicago, Ill.

## Baseball Star Okays Option For Movie

NEW YORK—A film script on juvenile delinquency starring Jackie Robinson, Dodger first baseman, is being written now while Robbie is being held under option of an independent film producer. Sat. 8-30-47

The deal will be off if the script does not suit Robinson or his advisors, the Chicago Defender learned last week. The film will be feature length if completed, and will be aimed at all juvenile delinquents regardless of race or creed. Robinson has long voiced a desire to work in that field, and intends to start a boys' club organization in California, after he retires as a ball player.

# Robinson Is Batting .303

Chicago Defender, Ill. 8-20-47

CINCINNATI — (NNPA) — St. Louis Cardinals are out of the picture—due to the playing of Jackie Robinson, Brooklyn's rookie first baseman. With the double win over the Reds on Sunday during which Robinson fattened his batting average and run-getting, Brooklyn is "about in" as far as the world series is concerned.

Robinson got one hit and one run on Thursday as St. Louis won the second game of the series when he hit a homer. On Friday, Robinson scored two runs and made two hits although the Dodgers lost 8-7. He stole a base.

**SATURDAY,** Robinson figured prominently in Brooklyn's 19-hit, 8-7 victory. He made three hits in five trips to the plate. He raced over to pull in Nippy Jones' foul near the dugout and came near injuring himself. Quick thinking by his teammate, Ralph Branca, who caught Jackie as he was about to tumble headlong into the Dodgers' dugout saved Jackie.

Robinson left St. Louis with his batting average as .300. On Sunday against the Reds he made three hits in six trips to the plate in the first game and two hits in five trips in the second game bringing his total times at the bat to 561 and his hit total to 170. His batting average now (Sunday night) is .303. He has scored 120 runs and has batted in 43 runs and hit 10 home runs.

# Cincy Fans Cheer Robby

By Bill Mardo

To those who envisioned the end of the world just because the 1947 Dodgers have a Negro playing first base, we'd like to briefly reprint some valuable observations on how out-of-town ballparks are reacting to Jackie Robinson as the Dodgers initiated their first western swing in Cincinnati Tuesday night.

**"Jackie Robinson was the toast of the town last night. He was robbed by larcenous stabs twice but came through with a screaming single in the big ninth."** So wrote the New York Post's expert on Dodger affairs.

**"Many in the crowd of 21,164 were Brooklyn fans, or to be specific, Jackie Robinson fans. They saw Robinson run his hitting streak to 10 games with a single in the ninth . . .,"** commented the World-Telegram's Dodger dispatcher.

The toast of the town . . . thousands of Cincinnati-ites who came just to see Robinson — and only a few short days ago a handful of KKK inspired characters in baseball were unsuccessfully trying to pull a general strike against Robinson!!! Those baseball bigots didn't draw any encouragement from president Ford Frick's forthwright ultimatum, and certainly the greeting given Robinson by the Cincy fans will further serve to bury their obnoxious cause. As will the warm hellos Jackie is bound to get from the democratic minded fans in Pittsburgh today, Chicago and yes, even in St. Louis, where the Case Hotel denies Robby the right to bunk with his teammates.

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**DODGER DATA:** Rex Barney may very well be the boy to fill Kirby Higbe's starting spot. The young fireballer came on the Cincy scene after the Redlegs sewed up their 7-5 victory, but in the two innings he **worked brother Barney** whiffed six . . . that's right, six. Not in succession, friends, because Barney still had his typical moments of wildness when he walked two and was nicked for a single . . . but nobody crossed the platter on him and that was a helluva lot better than the many preceding Dodger chukkers could do. . . .

**Tom Tatum became the latest ex-Dodger when Rickey sold him to the Reds for a reported 30-gees.**

The Dodgers again hold title to Red Durrett, whom the Cincy club sold to Fort Worth in the Brooklyn farm.

# ROBINSON REVEALS WRITTEN THREATS

## Dodgers' Negro Star Told in Anonymous Letters to 'Get Out of Baseball'

Threatening letters of anonymous origin have been received by Jackie Robinson, first baseman of the Dodgers, it was revealed yesterday. This disclosure followed on the heels of a report that a strike of opposing players against the Negro ballplayer had been spiked.

Harassment of Robinson, the first of his race to make the major league grade in modern baseball history, by unidentified persons was confirmed in Philadelphia last night by Branch Rickey, president of the Brooklyn Baseball Club.

"At least two letters of a nature that I felt called for investigation were received by Robinson," Rickey said. "These letters proved to be practically anonymous. Investigation showed the names signed to them were of persons not living at the addresses given. I think the whole matter can be called ended now."

Robinson himself admitted receiving several such letters. "A police captain came out to my home this morning to ask me about such letters and I told him that if I received any I wouldn't be turning them over to the police but that I would take it up with the Brooklyn ball club," he stated.

"That," said Rickey, "is exactly what Jackie did—turn them over to me."

**Letter Is Investigated**

A high police official here disclosed that a letter warning Robinson to "get out of baseball" had been turned over to the police department by the baseball club for investigation.

This missive, which contained no overt threat but stressed the "get out," bore a return name and address. A detective sent out of town by the police to check these found both to be fictitious.

While the presumption of the police, who would not divulge the city from which the letter had been mailed, is that this probably was just another "crank" letter, accumulations of such incidents certainly handicap Robinson in his efforts to make good by putting him under abnormal pressure.

The sensation caused by the report that members of the Cardinals had contemplated a strike against Robinson's playing until President Sam Breadon of the St. Louis club intervened died down yesterday.

Declaring that the subject was a dead issue and that "a mountain had been made out of a molehill, anyway," Ford C. Frick, president of the National League, declined to comment further on the matter.

Terming the idea of a strike against Robinson "fantastic," Frick made it clear that the Negro player had the full backing of the National League and that any unwarranted persecution of him would result in severe disciplinary action against the offenders.

Breadon and Manager Eddie Dyer of the Cardinals both vehemently denied that there was a strike threatened by their players, who faced Robinson in three games at Brooklyn this week without any untoward incident.

The St. Louis owner said that, on coming East to see what could be done about helping his slumping club, he had been informed by a St. Louis reporter that there was dissatisfaction among some National League players — not the Cardinals — about playing against Robinson.

"I decided to talk the thing over with some of the men because it would be such a terrible thing," Breadon said. "Bringing the matter to the attention of two of my leading players, I was happy to find there was no such feeling that they knew of."

While Breadon talked to Frick concerning the situation, the National League president said he himself had not spoken to any St. Louis players on the subject.

Resentment of Robinson's presence has not been evident among the Dodgers, who are most intimately concerned. His team-mates to accept him. If any of them object to him, they at least have maintained a discreet silence.

# Robinson's Jim Crow Status Puzzles Fans

HAVANA — The strange case of Jacke Robinson is just as puzzling here in Havana, where Jackie is preparing himself for the coming season, as it is in, Los Angeles.

There is absolutely no indication that the Coast star, who led the International League in hitting last year for Montreal, is going to graduate to the parent Brooklyn Dodgers, as his record would appear to justify.

Neither is there any positive evidence that he will not be given every chance to become the first Negro in history to enter the big show. For what it is worth, not one of the numerous sports writers covering the Brooklyn camp thinks Jackie will be in the Dodgers lineup. However, they all could be wrong.

**LIVE IN HOTEL**

The Montreal squad is living and training at a new military institute about 15 miles out of Havana. That is, all the Royals are living there except Robinson and three Negro players who did well in the loafer minor leagues last year and are receiving tryouts. They live at a hotel in the city.

The Dodgers are quartered in the swank Nacional Hotel, and they see very little of their Montreal cousins. Manager Leo Durocher of the Dodgers has not seen Robinson, and does not intend to see him until the Dodgers and the Royals open a series of exhibition games in Panama March 17.

In discussing his own club, Leo does not mention the Negro flash among his infield prospects, and they say that President Branch Rickie does not, either.

# Dodgers Trim Braves, 8-3

## Branca Stars, Brooks Swing West in Second Place

Bouncing back solidly from their lost weekend at Philadelphia, the Brooklyn Dodgers whacked the Boston Braves 8-3 yesterday at Ebbets Field and entrained for their first Western trip in second place. It was the only game played in the National League.

An amazing Monday afternoon crowd of 19,661 turned out to see this fill-in game of an earlier postponement, and reserved most of its cheers for 21-year-old Ralph Branca, who not only pitched well in winning his second victory, but weighed in with two base hits, one with the bases full.

The afternoon was enlivened by

the cleaning out of the Brooklyn bench by enraged ump Magerkurth, long an Ebbets Field target. The incident occurred in the 2nd after several walks and a balk and filled the bases with two out. With two strikes on Ryan, Mage whipped off his mask and majestically ejected everyone he could see on the Dodger bench, including coach Sukeforth, for riding him. Ryan then fanned to end the frame.

**The Dodgers got off to a two-run lead off big Mort Cooper in the opening frame. Stanky singled and was forced by Robinson. Reiser singled, sending Robby to 3rd, and on Walker's tap to Torgerson, everybody was safe as the first sacker failed to get Robby off third. Hermanski then unleashed a two-run single.**

Masi's single and Torgerson's single counted for one before the big ejection scene in the second and it stayed 2-1 until the Dodgers broke loose with 4 in the 5th.

In this inning Robinson was nicked by a pitch, Reiser singled, Walker sacrificed and Hermanski was purposely passed to fill the sacks. Bruce Edwards skied to right field, Robby tallying after the catch. Old Arky Vaughan, filling in for the ailing Jorgenson, ripped his first base hit since 1942 down the first base line, a double scoring Reiser. Reese was passed to fill them up again, but Branca crossed the signals with a long one baser to right center, scoring two more. Reese was out at the plate trying to come in on this one.

Two more in the 8th were driven in by Carl Furillo after hits by Branca and Stanky and Robinson's sacrifice. Torgerson whacked his 7th home run of the season over the scoreboard with a man on in the 9th to end the scoring. The big Brave rookie who looks like Ted Williams is really opening up after a slow start.

Daily Worker

**Speaking of opening up, Jackie Robinson began to give some inkling of his base running abilities by stealing second twice cleanly to take the league lead in that department. He also walked twice, was hit by a pitch and scored two runs to put him ahead of both leagues in denting the rubber. Jackie has hit safely in the last 9 games since snapping out of his slump.**

June 5-13-47

# Letter From the Editor

The New York, N.Y.

The *Herald Tribune's* sports scoop of last week on suppression of a proposed National League baseball players' strike against Jackie Robinson made one point that deserves attention outside of the sports pages.

June 5-13-47

The *Tribune's* sports people noted that Robinson's "intelligence and degree of education are far beyond that of the average ball player . . ." That is the clue to a whole lot more racism than just the case of Jackie Robinson. It is a test-tube demonstration of how insecure people turn to intolerance and affected superiority to cover up a feeling—or fear—of inferiority.

There are many fine men in baseball—men with minds as well balanced as their bodies. Unfortunately, there are also one-sided individuals who literally do not know anything in the world except how to play baseball. Some of them spring from what is known in the intolerant racial subdivisions of the South as "white trash." They are fringe victims on the white side of the cold-blooded system which aims at the economic suppression of the Negro.

What is more natural, then, that when they are confronted by a Negro like Robinson they try somehow to assert their superiority? They can't do it intellectually—for he knows more than they do. They can't do it physically—for Robinson is at least as good a ball player as they are, maybe better than some. So they try to organize a jim-crow player boycott.

This isn't just because they fear that Robinson and other Negroes are going to take their jobs. It is because, overwhelmed by their own feelings of inadequacy, their inverted egos cry out for superiority over someone, anyone.

This analysis is oversimplified—but not distorted. In the Jackie Robinson case, the picture is very clear, but it isn't a picture that's peculiar to baseball. You don't have to go far to find people who feel inferior or insecure, feeding their hurt vanities by abuse of someone else. It's a quick, cheap way to get a synthetic feeling of superiority. You will find it in Congress as well as in baseball. Witness: Rankin and Bilbo.

You can't root out the insecurity from the minds of the Rankins and Bilbos and bigoted ball players. It was planted there too long ago. The problem is to get into the minds of the youngsters now, and those coming, the fact that in this life they do not need to feel inferior to anyone or to lord it over anyone as compensation. And that, in turn, is as broad as the problem of running our society so that all men have a fair crack at earning a decent, adequate living—and living a fulfilled life.

I never knew a bigot who didn't betray evidence that in his soul he felt inferior to the people he was attacking.

John P. Lewis

Nation

AN UNCONFIRMED QUOTATION WITHOUT quotation marks is a journalistic phenomenon to be handled with care, but if Ford Frick's sermon to some St. Louis baseball players was nearly as pithy and as courageous as the statement attributed to him by the New York *Herald Tribune* last Friday, the president of the National League is highly to be praised. "If you do this, you will be suspended from the league," Mr. Frick is reported to have ordered owner Sam Breadon to tell a group of his St. Louis Cardinals who were fomenting a players' strike against the presence in the league of Brooklyn's Negro first baseman, Jack Roosevelt Robinson. And then he is said to have added: "I do not care if half the league strikes. . . . All [who do] will be suspended and I don't care if it wrecks the National League for five years." For the president of a multi-million-dollar industry thus to imperil his own security in the interest of decency is, to say the least, remarkable. "This is the United States of America," Frick's reported declaration continues, "and one citizen has as much right to play as another. The National League will go down the line with Robinson, whatever the consequences. You will find, if you go through with your intention, that you have been guilty of complete madness." Madness, indeed—for, transcending ball parks, paranoia lies at the root of all race prejudices. Those who would fight to eliminate this insanity from where it least belongs, the realm of sport, earn our unqualified admiration. While congratulating Mr. Frick—we hope not prematurely—we extend our compliments to Stanley Woodward and the sports staff of the *Herald Tribune* for breaking the full story. Ford Frick's words, as paraphrased by Mr. Woodward, might well be set in bronze in baseball's Hall of Fame at Cooperstown, N. Y.

New York, N.Y.

June 5-17-47

# 'Riding' of Rookies Is More Tribute Than Slam

Courier Journal
Louisville, Ky.

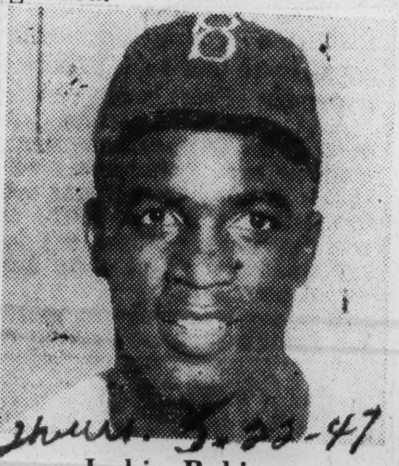
By WHITNEY MARTIN, A.P. Sports Writer.

New York, May 21 (AP) — We think that Brooklyn's Negro first baseman, Jackie Robinson, would be the last one to object to a little legitimate "riding" on the part of opposing teams. In fact, we have an idea he wouldn't want to be treated with kid gloves, and ignored.

That would just call attention to the fact his position is a little different from that of his fellow ball players. He would want to be treated as any other rookie. We think the only thing he would ask would be that the racial angle be omitted, and that's fair enough.

The riding of a rookie, or any other player, really is a tribute. The bigger the star, ordinarily the more the bench jockeys get on him. A so-so player never gets much riding. It's only the player who is good, and the better he is, the harder ride he gets.

Babe Ruth probably took as much riding as any other player during his career. You can imagine the remarks tossed at the huge, apparently ungainly Honus Wagner.



Thurs. 5-22-47

Jackie Robinson

**RIDING**

Ted Williams has been subjected to an unmerciful riding. After his remark, undoubtedly in jest, that he would like to be a fireman, Jimmy Dykes had his White Sox appearing with firemen's helmets.

Goose Goslin was a natural mount for the jockeys. When he came to the plate the catchers would start singing softly: "Goosie-goosie gander. . . ."

One player actually was ridden out of baseball. That was Tilly Shafer, a very promising young Giant shortstop of 35 years ago or so. Shafer was a college graduate, and a very handsome lad indeed. At that time there weren't many college men in baseball, and Shafer was a natural target for verbal abuse from the rough-and-ready boys. He finally told John McGraw he just wouldn't take it any longer, and quit the game.

**ECHOES**

Schoolboy Rowe still is hearing echoes of his famous radio crack: "How'm I doin', Edna?" It hasn't affected his pitching too much, judging from his performance to date this season.

The point is that the good players are the ones who are the targets, and they expect to take it. Robinson would like the riding to be a tribute to his ability, that's all. He can take it.

The present plight of the St. Louis Cardinals, who are having trouble opening the cellar door in the National League might be taken in the light of retribution.

It was Eddie Dyer who invented the "Dyer Shift" to curb the hitting effectiveness of Ted Williams in the World Series. It was a little different from the Boudreau shift the young Cleveland manager first used against the Red Sox slugger, and it was so effective that most of the American League teams are using is now.

In the Dyer shift only one man is left on the left side of the infield, the others crowding over to the right of second base.

Anyway, the Cardinal's National League opponents seem to have found the weakness of Dyer's team, and are playing it for all they are worth.

The Cardinals just don't like left-handed pitchers, so that's practically all they are seeing. They lost 11 of 13 games to southpaws, and the end isn't in sight.

Eddie is beginning to think that he is the victim of a leftist movement, and wouldn't be at all surprised if somebody turned up with a left-handed monkey wrench. Somebody has tossed a wrench into that smooth - functioning machine, that's certain.

erstwhile Cardinal

Thurs. 5-22-47

51b 1947 Jackie Robinson

# Tolan Talks About Jackie

Daily Worker

By William Allan

DETROIT, April 24.—The editorial offices of the Michigan **Herald**, progressive weekly, were thrown into an uproar one bright morning last week. Eddie Tolan, great Negro athlete, Olympic 100-meter champion in 1932, and now the **Herald's** sports editor, had just returned from a trip to Brooklyn.

From baseball's most boisterous fandom that gather in Ebbets Field, Eddie brought back a wave of fighting spirit and enthusiasm. He also brought back numerous penants and buttons, only two of which we allowed to be pinned up in the sports department. New York

One is a button bought by thousands of Brooklyn fans and said, "I am for Jackie." Jackie being Jackie Robinson, the Dodgers' Negro first baseman, who today is hitting it up in the big leagues to the joy and delight of every freedom-loving American baseball fan. N.Y.

The second souvenir was a pennant that said, "Chandler, open the door for Leo." Fri. 4-25-47

Eddie, who formerly educated us in sprints-heats-relays, the fastest time for all kinds of distances, now propped himself behind the old typewriter and gave forth about his trip to Brooklyn.

He thought that Jackie Robinson had been pressing a little opening day, but with eloquent baseball lingo he assured us that Jackie would be in the groove in no time. Recent press reports have borne out our sports editor's analysis.

Eddie visited the dressing room, the press box, got his personal interview with Jackie, was escorted to the ball park (not by a police escort but by John Goodman, vice-president of the AFL Building Service Employes), talked to Branch Rickey, Jr., heard the brass band that paraded through the stands and bleachers giving Brooklyn's rendition of Open the Door Richard —"Open the Door Chandler for Leo." New York N.Y.

All of these things you can read in Eddie's column. One point our sports editor had, we thought, was a four-bagger. Here's how he put it and I hope that he does a column on it.

"Sure, opening day at Ebbets Field with Jackie Robinson playing first base was a great day for my people. But it's also a terrific blow against Jimcrow that will be felt all over America. Let me explain that. Thousands of Negro youth will now turn to baseball with a new zest and perspective. Scores of cities and towns in the South will see next training season many Negro ball players coming down for spring training and tryouts.

"I just came from Cleveland where cavalcades of automobiles are going to Chicago and Pittsburgh to see Jackie Robinson play when the Dodgers come there. In Detroit we are organizing a real campaign to ask the Tigers, 'if the Dodgers can do it, why not the Tigers?' In Chicago, when Brooklyn comes to play the Cubs, there will be a huge banner carried by a score of people in the bleachers also asking: 'Brooklyn done it, when are you going to do it, Chicago?'

"And I will never forget opening day at Brooklyn, when thousands stood up and cheered when Jackie came to bat. That old war cry of baseball, 'get a hit, Jackie,' had a new meaning for me then. Or when I came out of the ball park at Ebbets Field and saw the thousands of fans waiting outside to greet Robinson. Fri. 4-25-47

"A great movement is aborning in America. In this period, when big business reaction seeks to fascize our country, what's happening in Brooklyn is not confined to Ebbets Field, it's like a great breath of clean, democratic air sweeping the nation and everyone must open the door for it."

That's what Eddie brought back from Brooklyn. We are sure that as Jackie Robinson makes his swing around baseball's circuit that he, too, will bring to the cities the same message of democracy in action.

# Dodgers Nip Phils 2-0 Behind Branca

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Fri. 4-25-47

Officially, it was Ladies Day at Ebbets Field, but yesterday the gals were all too happy to take a back seat and call it Petey Reiser Day. And what a day Pistol Pete had, as Ralph Branca blanked the Phils 2-0. First off, Reiser's stratospheric average continued to soar as he collected two singles in three official times up. Oh, yes, he also drew a walk and, like all other mortals, hit into a double-play. Afield, he was pure perfection, making one sensational catch after another, all of them getting Branca out of serious trouble.

As it was, young Ralph didn't finish it, as Hugh Casey took over with two out in the seventh and Philly runners on second and third. Hughie took care of the matter, getting Northy to pop up, and twirling hitless ball in the ninth to end it.

The Dodgers scored their two runs in the first frame. Stanky led off with a walk. Jackie Robinson's grounder was bobbled by McCormick and both runners were safe. Reiser then blasted a single into deep right to load the bases. Dixie Walker came through with a sharp single into short right field, scoring Stanky and Robby with the only runs of the game. Phil starter Hughes got out of trouble by getting Reiser on the force at third after Hermanski had bunted weakly to the hill, Edwards lifted one to center and Jorgensen took a third strike.

Reiser's stunning stops in the outfield came with Phillies on base in the second and again in the eighth. That first catch in the second stanza came when Seminick drilled a savage liner twisting into left field which Reiser raced over for and picked up on one hop, whipping the ball back to the infield in the same motion and holding Tabor up at third. In the eighth, Petey absolutely robbed Wyrostek of a sure double by again racing madly to his right to snare the ball a few inches off the ground.

Jackie Robinson went hitless for the first time since the second day of the season . . . although he got on base two times via Philly infield errors.

## Ed Sullivan, Please Note

51

**AND WHILE** we're at the mailbag, here's something that doesn't rhyme but also has to do with another Dodger.

"Dear Bill: Daily Worker

"This is in no way a defense of Ed Sullivan but facts are facts. My wife and I were at the Polo Grounds last Friday when Jackie Robinson hit his homerun. I believe it was obvious to everyone around us, and at the time I remarked to my wife, that not one Dodger in the dugout got up to greet or congratulate Robbie after his trip around the bases. New York, N.Y.

**"I do think that we are doing Robbie a disservice if we over-emphasize the cooperation he is getting, or the encouragement he is receiving from his teammates. I am sure that Robbie will win over the Dodgers just as he has already won over the fans of New York. Even ardent Giant fans root for Robbie everytime he comes to bat.**

"Here's for a bigger DW sports section.

Wed. 4-30-47 "JEROME BALTER."

It's hard for me to agree with the reader that reporting the normal comraderie between Robinson and his teammates does him a disservice. And neither is it "over-emphasis." If anything, the over-emphasizing has been done all in the wrong direction—if you'll recall those gloomy reports from Havana last month declaring the bulk of the Dodgers opposed to Robinson's coming up. This writer took those baleful stories with a grain of salt, knowing where they came from, and also knowing that there WAS a small, very small minority on the club who were prejudiced against Jackie. By now it's no secret that the vast majority of Dodgers are all for Robbie and this is apparent not by any obvious gushiness, but by the completely normal manner in which one ballplayer shows respect and friendliness for another. By the tips about his new job that Jackie constantly gets from his veteran teammates, by the entirely unaffected normal by-play in the dugout and dressing room, by the regular chatter on the ballfield during the game in which Robinson comes in for his share of "C'mon Jackie . . . pick a good one . . ." etc. New York, N.Y. 4-30-47

When a prominent Broadway columnist distorts these simple facts and places the emphasis all the other way, it's our job to call him on it.

**One final note. If Ed Sullivan will look at the back page of his own paper, dated April 19, he'll see a big photo of Jackie Robinson getting a handshake from Tom Tatum as he crossed home-plate after his circuit clout.** Daily Worker

That's all, brother.

# There's Still Jimcrow in Baseball

51 The Worker

There isn't a baseball fan living who hasn't heard of Jackie Robinson. Aside from knowing his name, however, they're also aware that he heads into his Dodger tryouts next week in Havana. The first of five Negroes in modern organized baseball last year, he went on to cop the International League batting crown, pace the Montreal Royals to a pennant and World Series victory over the Louisville Colonels, and won honors as the best second sacker in the loop. New York, N.Y.

Those performances have earned for Jackie a tryout with the Dodgers in Havana, commencing next week. If he's judged solely on his talent, and there's little reason off Branch Rickey' record last year to suspect otherwise, Jackie Robinson will become the first Negro to crack the hoary old jimcrow ban in major league baseball. Sun. 3-16-47

But the very worst thing that could happen to the end-jimcrow-in-baseball campaign, initiated by the Daily Worker ten years ago, would be for progressive fans to let this issue rest alone on how Jackie Robinson makes out in his big chance.

Bringing a bit of democracy to our

great pastime is too big an issue to let rise or fall on the shoulders of

That's where your job comes in, Mr. and Mrs. Fan. Negro stars have enriched track, football, boxing and every other sport where given a chance to compete equally —why should the beloved game of baseball have this Hitler-like ban to its discredit? *3-16-47*

Get up petitions, signed by thousands in your neghborhood, demanding that qualified Negro talent be signed to the big league team of your city Organize delegations to visit the clubowner urging that this democratic step be taken.

Let's make the 1947 season something to really shout about! You can do it, you guys and gals in Detroit, Boston, Pittsburgh et al ... only let's do it NOW!

one man's attempts with one ballclub. And should Jackie make the grade, that still doesn't mean jimcrow has been busted in the big leagues. *The Worker*

How about those 15 other big legue club-owners who've callously ignored the beginnings made last season when Rickey signed up five Negro players to his Brooklyn organization—Robinson, Roy Campanella, Donald Newcombe, Roy Partlow and Johny Wright. *N.Y.*

Yes, how about those reactionary do-nothing magnates who still hope to sabotage the end jimcrow campaign by doing nothing on their own ballclubs and doing everything to pressure Rickey out of bringing Jackie up to the big leagues.

JACKIE ROBINSON

# In This Corner

*Daily Worker Thur 4-24-47 New York, N.Y.*

## In the Dodger Dugout With Jackie

**By Bill Mardo**

**OUT ON THE** diamond the Phils and Dodgers were warming up 20 minutes before gametime at Ebbets Field. Big Schoolboy Rowe tested his soft stuff and looked loose and easy. No obvious discomfort due to his groin ailment which benched him the second half of last season. Behind the big batting cage Bobby Bragen caught the surprisingly hard pegs of a couple of frustrated pitchers, Messrs. Howie Schultz and Dixie Howell. And the way the first sacker and catcher burned 'em in it would appear they missed their true trade. "Stee-rike one!" Bragan bellowed. Schultz, a good-natured blond with the face of a high school kid, kicked his long leg high into the air and came down with a ball that really acted. "Screwball — stee-rike two!" Bragan chuckled.

JACKIE ROBINSON

**WITH AN** electric blanket around his right arm, Jackie Robinson sat in the far end of the dugout with boss Burt Shotton, a Philly scribe and myself. Shotton leaned over and asked whether Robby's arm was bothering him. "Nope, just wanted to see if the heat really goes through the shirt." Shotton philosophized: "Well, it won't go through but neither will it let any cold air in. Ask Gregg, he used it yesterday and he must've liked it a lot." Subtle reference to Hal's one-hit game.

I asked Jackie how the apartment hunt was working out. "Oh, I think we're going to land one in the Fulton Street neighborhood." And how's his five-month old son doing? "Fine, fine. He's over that cold. No more floor walking for me," he added with a smile. *Daily Worker*

The man who paced Montreal to a pennant and Little World Series win thinks his former teammates will do okay this year—"but it won't be any runaway like last season. Newark and Syracuse will be plenty tough. Especially Newark, if their pitching holds up."

**What does Jackie think of Roy Campanella's chances with the Royals? "He'll help them a lot. Roy's a real player." The Philly scribe asked Robby if he'd seen any other Negro players whom he considered big league material. "Well, there are two that I know could make it—Larry Doby and Monte Irvin of the Newark Eagles. Doby hit around .344 last year and Irvin's .392 led the league." Jackie pulled the electric pad tighter around his arm and explained: "I wasn't in the Negro leagues very long, only one season with the Kansas Monarchs, so I really don't know too much about most of the boys. But I played exhibition ball in Venezuela with Doby and Irvin and that's why I can mention them specifically."**

The Philly writer, an ex-semi pro pitcher enthused about the late Josh Gibson. "He once hit a homerun off me at Bushwick Park that carried clear over the leftfield fence. And what a long ways off that was!" Jackie shook his head sadly. "Wasn't he something, though!"

Talk steered to Negro pitchers and Jackie told me that Johnny Wright is now with the Kansas Monarchs. Wiry Wright, you recall, came to Montreal with Robby last year and was later optioned to Three Rivers, a Rickey farm team in the Canadian-American League. "I don't exactly know what was wrong with Johnny. He looked very good in Spring Training, and then seemed to lose his stuff." How about Donald Newcombe, the powerful Negro righthander with Nashua? "He's very fast," Jackie emphasized, "but he has to sharpen his curve. Yeah, a pitcher needs a good curve ball to make this league."

**Robby was both surprised and happy to hear the Los Angeles Dons had signed the two Negro grid stars, John Brown and Oscar Givens. It was news to him, because he had only read about the Dodgers getting Elmore Harris and Sam Gamble. "You know, Bill," he laughed, "at first I read that thing wrong. I thought the papers said Brooklyn had signed Harris and gamble. Second time around I read it right. It's great news."** *Thur 4-24-47*

"Yes," he remarked in answer to my query, "I know about Bernie Jefferson going to the Chicago Rockets. It's going to be tough for him, though. He's laid off a long time. I never played against him in college," Robby recalled, "but he sure was a great ball carrier." Quite a tribute, coming from one of the speediest runners in UCLA grid history.

And, in case you didn't know, one of the fastest leggers now sporting a National League baseball suit. *New York N.Y.*

# Ray Fined $500, Suspended Month

*Daily Worker New York, N.Y.*

**By Bill Mardo** *Tues. 2-18-47*

Ray Robinson has drawn a 30-day ban and $500 fine from the New York State Athletic Commission. This decision was hung on Ray yesterday for "failure to report" a gambler's attempted wager that he couldn't have made the 147-pound limit for Marty Servo last September.

Boxing Commissioner Eagan, in handing down the verdict, called Robinson's version of the incident "incredible," and chose to accept the **World-Telegram** and **New York Post** accounts. Those newspaper stories had Robinson allegedly saying that he had been personally approached by a gambler who offered to bet $25,000 that he couldn't get down to the welterweight limit in time for the Servo title tilt which later never came off.

**But last Friday,** the welter champ and manager George Gainford testified there had been no direct approach upon the boxer himself, but the gamber had confined his remarks to Gainford and was promptly shooed off by the indignant Robinson.

By what manner of deduction Eagan determined that the newspaper versions were true and Robinson's incredible, is something for Sherlock Holmes to hazard an opinion on—but as the Commission's decision read, "**under the circumstances, therefore, the Commission in its discretion has reached the conclusion that the license's failure to report this offer is one which requires disciplinary action.**"

And then, while the 80 Center Street audience sat in fear that Robinson was going to become goat No. 2 in the current "cleanup" of boxing, Col. Eagan granted that **Robinson "promptly and vigorously rejected the offer and at no time was in collusion with any sinister influence."** And then Eagan tagged the 30-day suspension and $500 fine on Robinson for not reporting the incident. *Daily Worker*

**Robinson was obviously angered over the decision but said nothing to the press and hurried away.**

It appeared to observers that Col. Eagan, still whirling about under the momentum of his ridiculous ruling on the Graziano case, felt compelled to carry over his dispered ciplinary campaign to the Robinson issue despite the different character of the case and despite the fact that most boxing fans consider him in error on Graziano to begin with.

**So the hoopla goes on, it seems. Fighters get punished to the tune of blaring headlines and political capital, and the gamblers and undercover characters who infest the boxing business still go their merry way unworried and unham-**

# Frick Says Negro Players Here to Stay

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.
Sat. 5-10-47

**By Bill Mardo**

Amid much rumors, conjecture, denials and counter denials, an abortive attempt to fight Jackie Robinson's presence in baseball has been squashed. Ford Frick, National League president, disclosed yesterday that the St. Louis Cardinals had planned to "strike" against the first Negro in major league baseball by refusing to take the field against the Dodgers in the recently concluded three-game series at Ebbets Field. That strike never came off, said Frick, because he was informed of it in advance by St. Louis club-owner Sam Breadon, who in turn met with his players and talked them out of it.

Breadon branded, however, Frick's version as "ridiculous." And here's his side of the story: He had been told by a St. Louis newspaperman that there was "some dissatisfaction among the National League players—not the Cardinals mind you—about playing against Robinson." Breadon said he was concerned over the rumor. "I brought the matter up with two of my leading players and was happy to find there was no dissatisfaction. They never intimated that such a thing was thought of." Breadon insisted yesterday that while he had mentioned the various rumors about Robinson to Ford Frick when he met with him here last week, he had at no time indicated that his players were involved.

Frick stuck to his original version when queried yesterday, and added: "I didn't have to talk to the players myself. Mr. Breadon did the talking to them. From what he told me afterward the trouble was smoothed over. I don't know what he said to them, who the ringleader, if any, was, or any other details."

The National League prexy firmly declared his all-out support for the presence of Negroes in major league baseball. "As far as the National League is concerned, we stand firmly behind Robinson." If any players indulge in the type of action recently nipped, said Frick, "there will be only one recourse—indefinite suspension from baseball."

Meanwhile, Card manager, Eddie Dyer, a Texan, heatedly denied his players ever planned a strike. "As for Robinson, I would like to state for myself and for all my players that if Brooklyn wants to use him and thinks he can be of value to the club, that certainly is alright with us. He is an American the same as I am and he is entitled to all the rights and privileges I am."

According to certain newspaper stories yesterday, the anti-Robinson plot was instigated by one member of the Brooklyn Dodgers "who has since recanted."

Prior to yesterday's development, the only "incident" of any kind since the season started came when the Phillies played at Ebbets Field and their manager Ben Chapman used abusive language in riding Robinson from the bench. The Philly pilot, who years ago was involved in some anti-Semitic exchanges while a member of the New York Yankees, denied he had anything against Robinson. Chapman pleaded that he was "riding Robinson just like I do any other player"—and said that he always used such descriptive terms as "Polak," "Wop," etc.

But Ford Frick disclosed yesterday that he had taken a different viewpoint of Chapman's jockeying, and had warned him against the further use of language which harms baseball. 5-10-47 Sat

During the entire home-stand of the Dodgers at Ebbets Field, witnessed daily by this writer, there has never been any open incidents of any kind—or anything visibly suggesting an anti-Robinson attitude on the part of some visiting ballplayers. Aside from Chapman's foul language, Robinson has been treated like any other ballplayer, both by his own teammates, who are almost unanimously behind him, and by the opposition.

It was to be expected that the appearance of big league baseball's first Negro wouldn't be taken lying down by the enemies of democracy in baseball. That they may have succeeded in winning over a few bigoted and misguided players is apparent from the latest news. But certainly from the attitude which has prevailed at Ebbets Field during the recent home-stand it can be safely stated that those who would fight against making baseball truly a "National Pastime" are in the minority and the prompt and forthright stand by Ford Frick certainly doesn't encourage such further incidents—unless those behind it are prepared to be booted out of baseball for life.

# The Robinson Case

**By George E. Sokolsky**

News & Courier

The sports writers in these parts have dealt copiously with Jackie Robinson, who is the only negro playing in big league baseball. He is the first negro to achieve that distinction in modern baseball. It would be a tragedy for the negroes, for baseball, for this country if baseball ceased to be a sport and became a political issue.

I am told by sports writers that Robinson is entitled to major league rating. He is on a Brooklyn team. That baseball-conscious town has an enormous negro population. Negro boys and girls go to the same schools, the same movie houses, work in the same stores and factories, as white boys and girls. Nothing could be more natural than that the first negro to make a big league team should have Brooklyn as a home base. And in Brooklyn or New York no antagonism to opening this door to equal opportunity has expressed itself in any form.

Charleston, S.C.

On the other hand, all parties to this transaction, including Robinson, must have anticipated that it would not be smooth sailing everywhere in the United States. Nothing dies as hard as religious and racial prejudice and it is a curious phenomenon of human conduct that violent opposition to prejudices only serves to strengthen the prejudice. It is this psychological paradox that is often so baffling: if one takes it lying down, one feels like a coward

Robeson, who seems to be a fighting negro first and a dramatic baritone incidentally. That is a choice which he has a right to make in a free country. But it is his choice and therefore the consequences are his. Bert Williams declined to make that choice and opened the theater to men and women of his race. He was their pioneer.

I am told that Joe Louis follows in the footsteps of Bert Williams rather than the leadership of Paul Robeson. His services during the war were the greater because he asked nothing for himself, not even a commission.

Those who object to negroes argue that they are inherently unequal to whites. But what happens when a negro is by the grace of God equal or superior in his chosen field? What of such personalities

# Here's Latest Stuff from Dodger Office About Jackie

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.
Tues. 1-7-47

**By Bill Mardo**

Here's the latest info on the '47 Dodgers and Jackie Robinson: Branch Rickey leaves today for Havana. His problem is to clinch hotel committments for the Montreal Royals. The Dodgers are already set for the Hotel Nacionale and will probably check in Feb. 23. If Rickey can't close the deal for his Montreal farmhands at Havana's Biltmore Country Club, the situation regarding Robinson's tryouts becomes somewhat involved. For originally the idea was that Brooklyn and Montreal would train together at Havana. With the hotel situation still unsettled, it may work out that the Royals will be forced to stay in the South again. If that proves the case, Robinson will leave the Royals there the first week of March and fly directly to Panama where he'll play with some local teams in a ten-game series against the Dodgers.

Dodger front-office sources say Rickey's plan is to "educate" some of the Southerners on the Brooklyn team by letting them first play against Robinson in Panama and then in competition against the Montreal Royals—a club on which many of Jackie's teammates are Southerners. The Dodgers and Montreal arrive for a three-game series at Ebbets Field during the first Friday, Saturday and Sunday weekend in April. When all that is done with, it's said, Rickey believes whatever prejudice problems he may have on his club will have been ironed out as his players observed the comraderie among other Southerners and Robinson on the Montreal squad. If, however, some Dodgers who hail from the Southland still object to Robinson coming onto the parent team, the next move will be up to Rickey. New York, N.Y.

With Rickey's 1946 record as proof—the intelligent way he handled Robinson's entry into organized baseball, the unanimous opinion of topnotch Dodger and Montreal officials that Robinson belongs on Brooklyn—the feeling in the Dodger front office is that Rickey will be as firm as he has to be and will put the needs of his major league baseball team above any personal objections of a few biased ballplayers. Tues. 1-7-47

It's those same sources who maintain the above considerations, and not any suspicious motives, governed Rickey's decision not to buy up Robinson's contract at the end of the '46 season, as he did Montreal's Marv Rackley. It's the fact that Robinson isn't "just another player," but rather the first Negro to get a chance in the majors that governs the need to handle the issue as he, Rickey, deems wisest and with a minimum of difficulties.

Daily Worker

It's said Rickey is quite pleased with the gains made thus far in Robinson's case. He recalls the Montreal games he cancelled in Deland, Jacksonville, and Savannah last year when those cities refused to permit Robinson's appearance in mixed competition. Rickey now says he has received communications from the officials in those cities saying that should the Royals have to train there this year, Robinson and the club will not be confronted again with such jimcrow edicts.

(We are writing this story as simply straight news relayed to us from Dodger sources. No editorial comment, one way or another, is herein intended.)

and a traitor to one's kind; on the other hand, often by fanning the flames of prejudice, by permitting the diversion of the issue, great adventures in human justice are dissipated.

I could not help thinking of how much Bert Williams really accomplished in opening the theater to negroes. Before his time the so-called "black-face" was usually a white man whose face had been corked. Bert Williams was the first negro to make big time in the American theater as Jackie Robinson is the first negro to make big time in baseball.

Williams started in an era when there were no interracial committees, no defensive movements, no anti-defamation leagues, no communists to stir ill-will among differing peoples. But the Civil War lived in many parts of the country and even in Northern cities race riots broke out, usually over what is called miscegenation, that is the legal interdict against inter-marriage. I witnessed such a race riot in New York when I was a very small boy. It left me a permanent impression of how cruel ordinarily kindly, generous people can be in a mob, particularly when they do not even know why they are doing it.

Williams never permitted himself to become an issue. He was an actor, not a negro. He was an actor who sought to rise to the top of his profession and did. Apparently, Bert Williams differed from Paul

as Booker T. Washington, George Washington Carver, Bert Williams, Joe Louis, Paul Robeson? The argument of racial incompetence does not hold water against the facts when individuals emerge to disprove it. Then their resort must be to "secondary citizenship." They must say without frills that negro achievement is unwelcomed under any circumstances. How can such an argument hold up in a free society?

It is tough on the individual but reason will accomplish more than riot; sportsmanship more than boycott. In the case of Jackie Robinson, reason and sportsmanship must prevail.

# 46,572 Pack Wrigley Field; Jackie Gets A Walk, But No Hit

**By WENDELL SMITH, Sports Editor**

WRIGLEY FIELD, Chicago—Joltin' Jackie Robinson, who had hit safely in fourteen straight games, didn't get a hit on the field here Sunday afternoon, but he certainly was one at the turnstiles.

Once again cast in the conspicuous role of being the first Negro in the majors, and making his debut in Chicago with the Dodgers, Robinson was the mighty magnet that attracted a record-breaking throng of 47,101 fans to Wrighley Field. While Jackie was not up to his usual form, the Dodgers as a whole were. And they put on a "killing" rally in the seventh to beat the wobbling Cubs, 4 to 2.

With 94,202 eyes glued on him from the momen he walked on the field until he disappeared in the dugout after the final out had been made, Jackie had one of those kind of days ballplayers prefer to forget. Not only did he fail to hit for the first time since May 9, but he dropped a throw from Cookie Lavagetto in the fifth inning that he ordinarily could have snagged in his hip pocket.

Yet, despite his mediocre performance in this game, Jackie looked the part of a big leaguer and the crowd acknowledged it by giving him an ovation each time he stepped in the batter's box. In five trips to the plate, he walked once, was called out on strikes twice, popped out to first and lined out to centerfield.

Johnny Schmitz, lanky southpaw hurler, was breezing along in fine shape until the roof fell on him in the seventh and the Brooks scored all four of their runs, two on a fluke double by Pete Reiser into short left field. Up until that time Schmitz had "Robbie" and the Dodgers eating out of his left hand. He had allowed but three hits and not a Dodger was given a chance to get within hearing distance of third base. He was holding a 2 to 0 lead and it looked as though the Dodgers were in for a lacing before this tremendous crowd which seemed to be thrilled at just the sight of the flashy Negro first baseman from Brooklyn.

**SCHMITZ ROUTED**

Schmitz got into trouble quickly in the Dodgers big seventh inning. He walked Reese, gave up a sizzling single to Tom Brown and found the sacks jammed when Stanky laid down a perfect bunt towards third. Then Robinson came strolling to the plate with a menacing look on his bronze brow and swinging his big bat. The crowd was tense and so were the Cubs as Robinson got set to bang one out. The baseball gods weren't with him this time, however, and he was called out on strikes for the second time during the game. But Pete Reiser punched a blooper to left that went for a double and drove in two runs. Two successive walks produced another run and the tilt was in the bag for Brooklyn.

**JACKIE THE MAGNET**

The big story of the day, however, was that throng that jammed every nook and corner of Wrigley Field to get a look at Jackie. The crowd was composed of 46,572 and 529 free passes. The previous all-time paid attendance record was set during a doubleheader last year with the Phillies when 45,615 squeezed in. But Sunday afternoon that record went tumbling down and it was estimated that another 20,000 were turned away at the gate.

That amazing crowd merely proved to dubious owners that Branch Rickey grabbed a copper-colored gold mine when he signed Jackie Robinson to a major league contract. The crowd turned out to see him, and both the Cubs and Dodgers reaped the financial benefits. It was the second biggest crowd Robinson has played before this season. The largest was against the Giants in the Polo Grounds early in the season when approximately 52,000 turned out to see him do his stuff.

And, although he had an off day, the fans went for him in a big way. So big, in fact, that after the game he had to sneak out the park with a police escort in order to avoid the hundreds of autograph hounds that were waiting for him outside the dressing room.

EATING IT?—Ben Chapman, manager of the Phillies, denied there was anything personal in leading the verbal barrage against Jackie Robinson in Brooklyn recently. Pressure of the fans and the press made him eat his words, anyway. In Philly Friday night, he was told he should prove his sincerity by posing for a picture with Jackie. Ben's an Alabaman.

TOUGH GUYS, EH?

# Jackie Solves Pitcher Rated Tops by the Stars

CINCINNATI — A United Press poll of leading National League players revealed last week that Ewell Blackwell, ace of the Cincinnati Reds, is regarded the "toughest" pitcher in the loop, but Jackie Robinson seems to do all right against him.

In the recent series between the Brooklyn Dodgers and the Redlegs, for example, the Bums' stellar first baseman collected two ringing blows off the Blackwell deliveries.

Prior to this Hank Greenberg, home-run king of the Pittsburg Pirates; Marty Marion, brilliant shortstop of the St. Louis Cardinals; Enos (Country) Slaughter and Ron Northey, two more Cards' sluggers; Dixie Walker, crack Dodger batsman; Buddy Kerr of the New York Giants, and Del Ennis, Phillies' slap artist, had agreed as to Backwell's prowess.

Robinson's two blows came at a time and in a game in which the entire Dodger team was getting only six hits off the elongated right-hander.

The following day, when the Bums moved to Pittsburg, Jackie obtained two of the five hits his team got against the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Afro-American - Baltimore, Md. Sat. 3-15-47

# Tells AFRO's Sam Lacy Experience Is Trying One

## Realized That Road Would Be Rough Row; Inspired by Wife to Make Good

**By JACKIE ROBINSON**
**(as Told to Sam Lacy)**

**FIRST INSTALLMENT**

HAVANA, Cuba—I have been asked many, many times how it feels to be a lone colored man in an otherwise all-white world; what are my reactions to living in a goldfish bowl, as it were.

My answer now, as it always has been, is that the experience is a nerve-wracking one, yet something I would not have wanted to miss for all the gold in the world.

True, there have been times when I wished that I had chosen any other field for my life's work—times when I felt all the glory and money that could come to me as a baseball player might easily be passed up for the carefree life of, say, an apple vendor.

But I knew in midsummer of 1945, when I agreed to try my hand at organized baseball, that the job ahead of me was one loaded with dynamite.

**Realized Trouble Ahead**

I fully realized the road would be strewn with obstacles of every variety, for there existed at the time, for some unaccountable reason, the mythical belief that members of my race could not qualify to play professionally the sport that is known as our "national pastime."

There were, and are, those who wished to perpetuate that impression. And it is understandable that these persons would waste no opportunity to pounce upon anything I did that might be used as evidence to prove their contention.

Although I was fully aware that I was undertaking an awful lot, I made two momentous decisions in the late summer months of 1945, decisions which were totally unrelated at the time, but which later tied in handsomely together.

**Decisions Tie In**

On October 23, of that year, I signed a contract to play baseball with the Montreal club of the International League. On February 10, I got married.

If the first of these works out unhappily for me, I have little fear that the latter ever will.

It is, as a matter of fact, due to my extreme good fortune in marrying the most wonderful girl in the world that no hardship—be it in baseball or any other field—will ever prove too much for me to endure.

**Inspired by Wife**

Rachel—that's my wife—and I were childhood sweethearts, and when I elected to accept the chance to play organized baseball, she and I were agreed—on that as well as on our wedding date.

Then it began. After little more than two months of marriage, I went to Florida to report for spring training. My wife was right with me.

I knew the eyes of the world were upon me. Newspapermen were popping out from behind every pillar and post, firing question after question.

**Final Word Flashed**

It had been like that from the morning of Oct. 24, when the word was first flashed that a colored man had been signed to a contract in the Brooklyn Dodger organization.

It was enough to drive a man crazy, and there were times when I became extremely irritable.

But just when it seemed that I could stand it no longer, just when I made up my mind to throw out of the window the next guy who tried to interview me, Rae took hold of the situation. She would insist that we take a few minutes to talk the thing over, and invariably, she convinced me that this was the real test.

**Easy Sailing Ahead**

If I could get past this one, she'd always say, the rest would come easy.

By the time I got off the plane in Pensacola on my way to that first spring training, I had made up my mind that Rae was right. I knew then that there were many "first" tests awaiting me, and that once I got by them, I could then concentrate on doing justice to myself.

I realized, as Rae and I bounced up and down on the back seat of that bus from Pensacola to Sanford, Fla., that there was much more at stake here than just my pride.

Jackie Robinson and the feelings of Jackie Robinson were trivial.

**Out to Prove Equality**

The important thing was to prove that I, a colored man, given equal opportunity, could do the same things as my brothers of all other races—and do them as well, if not better.

I was the advance guard, so to speak. I was the force that had been chosen to establish a beachhead in hostile territory. I was to test the potency of enemy fire.

And as I sat there in the rear of that darkened bus with my eyes closed, I decided to map out the strategy I would use. The jostling of the rickety vehicle wouldn't let me sleep, so there was plenty of time to think.

**A Winning Cause**

That's when it came to me that my cause was sure to be a winning cause. I thought of the various weapons the enemy had used to prove that in the world my race was inferior to all others.

One of these weapons was this senseless law which required my wife and me to sit on the back seat of buses in the South. We did it, we still do it, and, except for a slight and temporary injury to our pride, nothing really serious comes of it. We suffer no physical harm and their only gain is a false sense of social security.

And as I sat there thinking, I tore down each one of the enemy's anti-racial weapons in much the same way—from his carefully hidden peonage system to the jim-crow educational pattern which still persists all the way up to the steps of the Capitol in Washington.

**Matured Overnight**

I can't help feeling that during that sleepless overnight ride from Pensacola to Sanford, Jackie Robinson matured!

By Mar. 3, when I stepped onto the practice field at Daytona Beach for my initial workout in organized baseball, I was ready for anything. It developed later that it was a good thing I was.

In fairness to all concerned, I must say that there was no outward show of resentment on the part of the men in the Montreal camp. All were receptive, none was solicitous. Clay Hopper, the manager, like myself, was new to the squad and, consequently, was in a position to look upon all of us, white and colored, simply as ball players.

**Given Every Opportunity**

That Hopper was a Mississippian was firmly entrenched in my mind before I got there. But I had determined that I would not prejudge him. As a colored man, I knew what it meant to be prejudged.

I was given every chance to make good. When my hitting was slightly off color in the beginning, Hopper and Clyde Sukeforth, the Dodger coach who had proved one of my best friends, offered bits of advice and told me not to worry.

Much as I would like to pose as an iron man, one with nerves of steel, I must confess that I was under a terrific strain. And though I knew my fielding was okay, "not worrying" about my hitting was more than a notion.

# This is My Story

Afro-Am. Sat. 3-22-47

**2nd Installment**

**By JACKIE ROBINSON**
**(As Told to Sam Lacy)**

HAVANA, Cuba — Given the task of blazing the trail the trail for my race in a field which had always been closed to it, was no easy matter.

It brought me many heartaches, caused me many sleepless nights. It has, I dare say, aged me before my time, sprinkled my head with a generous portion of gray hairs.

But if the things I have done, and may still do, can win for other colored players the respect they deserve, I shall consider my life well spent. Like Joe Louis, whom I greatly admire, I want always to bring credit to my people, to increase their stature by my own physical and moral behavior.

**Got Good Start**

I was given a good start in my first training camp experience in Florida last year. It did not take long for most of the fellows in the Montreal team to warm up to me.

In fairness to them, I want to point out that they did it of their own volition. There was no hammer held over their heads by the front office, every man of which was solidly behind me. Nor was I the least bit solicitous of their friendship.

Those who had no prejudices acted toward me the same as they acted toward other fellows they were meeting for the first time. And those who, because of Southern descendency, had certain feelings about race, quickly set those feelings aside.

There were some recalcitrants, of course, but they were in such a minority that they were inconsequential.

**Attitude Helped**

All of this helped a great deal. The attitude of the men on the squad, together with the backing I was getting from Mel Jones, the general manager, and Mr. Rickey, enabled me to take a firmer toehold as I went to bat against the forces of intolerance.

Cancellation of the exhibition games which we had booked in Florida—done because of the presence of John Wright and myself—was further evidence that Mr. Jones and Mr. Rickey were definitely on my side. And it gave me to understand that now I had to make good not only for Jackie Robinson and Jackie Robinson's people, but for these men as well.

The knowledge that the whole team was entering the regular season handicapped by lack of competition in practice — all because of John and myself — was something else to play on my mind. It was something else to cause me concern and make the presure greater.

And although I knew that I was "on the spot" when opening day came, it was something of a relief to trot onto the field before that huge crowd at Jersey City with the full satisfaction that what was past could no longer cause me worry.

**Happy—But**

The confidence my wife, Rachel, had maintained in me, and the feeling that I had far more friends than enemies in that tremendous throng; these things helped me to get off on the right foot.

The good fortune I had in getting four hits in five tries, including a home-run, and stealing two bases while playing well afield in my Jersey City baptismal, is history.

Under ordinary circumstances, my happiness would have been unbounded. I had met the test and had passed it—magnificently. I should have had the most glorious sensation imaginable. But that wasn't exactly the case.

That night, Rae and I discussed the future as rationally as two young people in a similar situation could be expected to do. And it occurred to us that a measure of jealousy might crop up among the other players to threaten the team's harmony.

**Players Are Human**

Whatever happened, though, we decided that we wouldn't look for it. We knew it was going to be just as difficult for us to refrain from being oversensitive as it would be for us to endure outward resentment. If there was to be any sign of racial rebellion, it was going to slap us in the face before we would strike back.

As things turned out, some few of the men disliked the thought of my stealing the show at the very outset. This was understandable, and it didn't have to be because I was colored. Ball players are human and no human enjoys being in eclipse.

Jealousy has wrecked many GREAT teams, to say nothing of a club in the minor leagues like ours. And the color angle had nothing to do with the jealousy and the wrecking, either.

**Just One Man**

Anyway, we went through the season without serious consequences because of my presence on the squad. There are some persons who have said that my presence had much to do with winning the junior world championship.

Naturally, I'd prefer to offer no opinion on this. I feel that I contributed somewhat to the championship calibre of the Royals as a whole, but I have learned from experience that no one man makes a team and that there has never been an individual in any walk of life whose efforts could take the place of nine.

The fans received me in such a way as to far exceed my expectations. Only in Baltimore was there a wholesale show of antagonism during the regular league sea-

son, and I wasn't greatly surprised by the reaction there. The town is known to be influenced greatly by a heavy Southern population.

But even in Baltimore I found some white persons who were repelled by the insults that were tossed at me from the stands. There was never any question as to the manner in which the colored spectators would receive me, and in this respect, Baltimore was no exception.

**Syracuse Was Hard**

Colored and white alike were for me in the other cities in the league—Newark, Jersey City, Syracuse, Buffalo, Rochester and Toronto.

And I had no serious difficulties with the opposing players. I had to take an awful lot from the bench-jockeys on the Syracuse Club. They did many things that got under my skin, including the display of a black cat in their dugout with the loud-mouthed admonition: "Hey, Jackie, here's a black (mate) for you!"

I tolerated it, though I seriously doubt that I was able to hide my feelings. I figured that they were giving me the same treatment they gave players on other clubs, and that it was customary to seize upon anything which would best serve the purpose.

I was trying to do what Rae and I had decided upon early in the year, to take everything they had to throw before swinging back.

**Why Not?**

It was the same thing when certain of the opposing pitchers "threw at me" in the early days of the season. There were times when I felt that I was extremely lucky at being able to duck a high fast one inside. But, hard as it was for me to do so, each time I got up out of the dirt and brushed off, I concluded it wasn't done because I was colored. It was done because I was a fairly good batter, ON THE OTHER SIDE. Sat. 3-22-47

I said to myself, they do it to the white boys, so why not to me?

It was exactly what I wanted. Therefore, I had no reason to complain. From the time I signed a contract to play with Montreal, I had expressed a desire to be treated as "just another ball player." Whatever went for the white boys was to go for me, too. I wanted no special favors. I didn't want to be a "different case."

# Jackie on Crutches After Toe Operation

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

## Brooklyn Star Due in New York Jan. 4th to Talk Contract Terms

**LOS ANGELES — Jackie Robinson, 1947 Rookie of the Year and star first baseman of the Brooklyn Dodgers, on Tuesday was prepared to set aside the crutches he has been using since undergoing the surgeon's knife here last week.**

Robinson told the AFRO Monday morning that he hoped to "get off these crutches" with his doctor's permission sometime the next day. "They're bunglesome and I certainly can't steal any bases with them under my arms," Jackie laughed.

Jackie entered the Los Angeles General Hospital last Thursday evening for the removal of a small bone in his right foot.

"We thought at first that it was a callous on the foot," Jackie said, "but an X-ray examination revealed that it was a small growth, about a quarter of an inch long and the size of a match stick. I was told it would have to be removed or it would probably develop into something more serious.

"Rachel and I decided there was no sense in waiting, so I went into the hospital to get straightened out. It really wasn't anything to be putting in the newspaper.

"I was out for about six or seven hours, under ether. Saturday evening, they told me I could go home, but handed me these crutches. Sat. 12-27-47

"You know I can't hang onto these things very long because I'm due in New York on Jan. 4, to see Mr. Rickey." The Dodger president, Robinson said, telegraphed him on Friday, telling him to come East on that date.

Jackie declared that he had not discussed salary with Rickey or with Leo Durocher, the Dodger manager, when they met at a UCLA banquet here last week. He said he had not the slightest idea what Rickey planned to offer him.

Robbie said further that he had not as yet begun work on the movie in which he is supposed to star, but that film "is scheduled to get started on January 8."

### *Jackie and the N. Y. Post*

**A MINOR LEAGUE** furore has been created by quotes attributed to Jackie Robinson in a wire story from Washington, D. C., one of the stops on his highly successful personal appearance tour. The quotes had Jackie expressing high dissatisfaction with his Brooklyn salary of the past season. Yesterday Jackie phoned the Brooklyn office and said the words were put in his mouth and he never said it.

I don't know his salary, which is not a matter of public record, and I have no doubt that he was worth more than whatever he received. Most players are, especially rookies who make good and suffer from the baseball system of signing contracts on the basis of the prior season. Jackie will dicker for a '48 contract with the strength of '47's achievements. Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

**But it so happens that Robinson has as much right as any other ball player to toot his own horn in the off season and even to publicly express dissatisfaction with his salary. Ball players, un-unionized, unable to seek the highest bidder for their services, and forced in the last analysis to take what the club gives them or stay out of the game, traditionally resort to the only weapon open to them, popping off in public. Every star has done it.**

Which is why one reads in amazement the column by the New York **Post** sports editor Leonard Cohen chastizing Robby for (supposedly) talking about his salary. Cohen says it is his feeling, **"Robinson has made a mistake, about which he'll hear,"** and **"It was the first time Jackie left himself open to criticism."**

The **Post** scribe never criticized any other star for tooting his own salary horn. Consciously or not, his remarks set up a double standard which implies that Robinson, because he is a Negro, must act and talk differently than white players and must take what salary he gets without a murmur. We're surprised, brother Cohen. **From Riesel, yes, but from you. . . . ?**

## *Move To Honor Baseball Star Is Blocked*

# Jackie Declines To Go South for Honor

JOURNAL and Guide Norfolk, Va.

**Staff Correspondence**

NEW YORK—Jackie Robinson, star first baseman for the Brooklyn Dodgers who is going on a theater tour shortly, has declined to "Go South" to accept a plaque honoring him for his athletic accomplishments, his sportsmanship, and his contribution to interracial goodwill.

The opportunity was offered to him on the weekend by President William H. Gray of Florida A. and M. College who came here for the purpose. The baseball idol was receptive to the idea, only to the extent of referring President Gray to his personal manager who set a price of $2,500 on Robinson's appearance at the Orange Blossom football classic sponsored annually by the Florida College.

**This effectively blocked the move to honor the young star, according to President Gray.** Sat. 10-11-47

The Orange Blossom game is to be played this season for the first time in the famous Orange bowl at Miami. Dr. Gray's plan, backed by powerful groups of both races in Florida, was to present a plaque or scroll, also to Dodger Manager Burt Shotton for his fair and courageous handling of the Dodger star chosen as the "rookie of the year" and boomed now for the most valuable player in the National League. 10-11-47

Dr. Gray, who knows Robinson personally, seemed considerably disappointed when he told the story of his failure to a Journal and Guide.

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

**THE BUMS HIT THE ROAD**—The Brooklyn Dodgers left New York last week for another Western invasion. Shown here before boarding the train are, left to right: Dick Young, Daily News; Tom Brown and Jackie Robinson of the Dodgers and Wendell Smith, Courier sports editor, who will keep Courier readers informed as to what goes with the team and Jackie.—Photo by Rowe. Sat. 6-21-47

# St. Louis Pilot, Players Friendly, Helpful to Jackie

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier
Sat. 6-21-47

By WENDELL SMITH, Sports Editor

ST. LOUIS—The St. Louis Cardinals aren't only good ball players, but they're good guys as well. At least that is the opinion of Jackie Robinson after his latest visit to this city on the banks of the ol' Mississippi and the gateway to the sunny South.

The battered Dodgers received plenty of rough treatment here over the past week-end, losing four straight games, and when they left Sunday night they were glad to say goodbye.

If anyone at all looked at the Cards without contempt it was Robinson. In this particular series he found them hospitable and surprisingly friendly. They went out of their way, it seems, to be nice to him. It was as though they were trying to show him they aren't the villains they appeared to be earlier in the season. At that time, they were accused of planning a sit-down strike rather than play against him. Fortunately, it never came off, and now the Cards apparently are as glad as Robinson that it didn't.

**CARDS FRIENDLY**

Throughout this present series the Cards talked and kidded with the Brooklyn first baseman at every opportunity. They were as friendly as his own teammates and no one was more surprised over it than Jackie himself.

"They sure are a swell bunch of fellows," he said Sunday night as the weary Dodgers entrained for Chicago. "They treated me so nice I was actually surprised."

Practically everyone of the Redbirds, including the boss himself, Eddie Dyer, had a few good words for Jackie during this series. Saturday night, for instance, Dyer held an inning-by-inning conversation with Robinson. Stationed in the first base coaching box, the Cards' genial pilot "broke the ice" by asking Jackie if he remembered him when Robbie played with the Kansas City Monarchs.

"You fellows used to play at our park in Houston," Dyer reminded Jackie, "and I was in charge of the park there. I remember you well. You looked like a good ball player to me then."

Jackie didn't remember the St. Louis manager, of course, because he never came in contact with him during those days. But he did remember the many games he played there with Kansas City.

"We used to play a lot of games there," Jackie said. "That's a good baseball town."

Later on during the same game, Jackie hit an easy roller to Harry (the cat) Brecheen, who grabbed the pill and tagged him on the first base line. Robinson was so disgusted that he threw his bat all the way to the dugout. When he took over his duties at first base, Dyer voluntarily gave him some sage advice.

"Listen, Jackie," the Card pilot cautioned, "never do that. Never throw the bat down like that just because you fail to hit. No matter how weakly you hit the ball, just drop the bat and run like hell. Forget about the bat and everything else. When the ball hits your bat, drop it and start running." Sat. 6-21-47

Robinson explained that he was disgusted and lost his head for a moment.

"Yeah, I know," Dyer said with a grin, "but you mustn't lose your head. And, don't think every ball you hit should land safely. You'll get your share of hits and make your share of outs."

Needless to say, Robinson was grateful for the interest Dyer showed and he thanked him for the advice. Jackie had probably thrown his bat in the direction of the dugout for the last time.

In Sunday's game, Robinson banged out a line-drive single to center. When Dyer took over his coaching duties, he said: "Jack, that was a good hit." He then turned and looked in the direction of the bleachers, which were practically filled with Negro fans. "Boy, if you'd hit a home run today," Dyer said, "those people out there would go crazy. They are sure for you."

Jackie smiled and said, "Yeah, and I'd like to drive 'em crazy."

**MEDWICK GIVES ADVICE**

Joe Medwick, the veteran outfielder, also had a few good words for Jackie when he got on base. "Listen, Robinson," the famous slugger said, "you're a much better hitter than you appear to be. 'Course you're doing alright, but you could be doing better. You're too tight up there at the plate. For goodness sakes, loosen up and hit that ball. If you do, you'll burn up this league, Jack."

Once again Robinson was grateful for such advice. He thanked Medwick and assured him he'd try and "loosen up." Sat. 6-21-47

Joe Garagiola, Stan Musial and Marty Marion were some of the other Redbirds who "talked shop" with Robbie when they got on first base—and in this series they were there all the time, it seemed.

Saturday afternoon, Jackie doubled and a moment later Brazle tried to trap him off second. As he slid back safely, he became entangled with Marion, who took the throw. It was then that the Cardinal shortstop showed Jackie that St. Louis isn't exactly a team of "toughies."

When Robinson got up after sliding back to second, Marion said, "did I spike you, Jackie?" Robbie looked at his leg just to make sure, and then said, "No. It was close, but you didn't get me."

"I thought I had at first," Marion said. "I got new spikes on and they'd cut pretty deep. I'm glad I didn't." After that Marion returned to his position and Robinson was once again deeply moved by the sportsmanship of the Cards.

"They can say what they want to about the Cardinals," Jackie said Sunday night, "but they're a darn nice bunch of fellows."

Apparently the once rebellious Cards think the same thing about him now.

# Robbie Pays Off at the Box Office

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

BROOKLYN — All doubts as to whether or not Branch Rickeys experiment with Jackie Robinson is the "good business" it appears to be were wiped out last week when the Brooklyn Dodgers returned to Ebbets Field after the most successful road trip in their history. Sat. 5-31-47

Beside setting records for attendance in Philadelphia, Chicago and St. Louis, the Dodgers drew a total of 348,069 paid customers in 13 road games. This is an average of 26,769.

Last year, regarded a boom one for the Bums, it was not until they had played 18 contests that their away-from-home pull reached the 300,000 mark.

## Jackie Robinson Named 'Negro Father of the Year'

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier
Sat. 6-14-47

NEW YORK—(ANP) — Jackie Robinson, the new and sensational first-sacker of the Brooklyn Dodgers, has been selected as the outstanding "Negro Father of the Year," according to a report released by the National Father's Day committee here last week.

Jackie, the only Negro selected by the commitee, ranks as one of ten outstanding fathers of 1947 chosen. The others are, in their numerical order: Warren R. Au

# Robinson Continues Pace As Dodgers Blast Chicago Cubs

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

CHICAGO—(NNPA)—With Jackie Robinson, Dodger first baseman, playing great baseball, Brooklyn made a three-game sweep of their series with the Chicago Cubs here, winning the final game last Thursday, 5 to 1. The series drew 63,352 paid admissions. Fri. 6-27-47

The Cubs led, 1 to 0, until the sixth inning. Then, Johnny Schmitz walked Jackie. The base running of Robinson had the Cub pitchers watching him anxiously. He kept edging off first and sliding back when Schmitz kept throwing to first to pick him off. Schmitz got badly upset, and Pee Wee Reese tripled, scoring Robinson with the tying run. Reese scored on Carl Furillo's fly to center field.

**SCORES AGAIN**

Jackie scored again in the seventh after he had got his second single to load the bases. Reese singled, scoring Gil Hodges, Dodger catcher. Russ Meyer relieved Meyer. Meers walked Johnny Jorgensen, forcing Robinson across with the last run of the game.

At bat four times, Jackie was credited with two hits and two runs. He also stole a base to retain his league leadership of pilfered bases with nine.

Robinson's batting average thru last Thursday's game follows:

| G | AB | R | H | 2B |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 55 | 213 | 44 | 64 | 7 |

| 3B | HR | RBI | Pct. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 4 | 14 | .300 |

Robinson enjoyed a free trip around the bases in the eighth inning of the game against the Chicago Cubs which Brooklyn won last Wednesday at Wrigley Field by a score of 5 to 3. Fri. 6-27-47

Jackie was safe at first on an error by Don Johnson, Cub third-baseman. Gene Hermanski, Dodger left fielder, sacrificed and when Jackie saw third base uncovered he started for that bag. Johnson threw to the base, expecting somebody to cover but when nobody did the ball went into the Cubs' dugout and Robinson scored.

The Dodgers had tied the score at 3-all in the sixth. Eddie Stanky, Dodger second baseman, walked and went to third on Jackie's single. Robinson moved to second when Tom Dallesandro, Cub left fielder, tried to catch Stanky at third. Hermanski singled to center, scoring Stanky and Robinson.

**FIELDING SUPERB**

Afield Jackie handled ten chances without an error. At bat four times, he got only one hit but scored two of the Dodger's five runs. The Dodgers made four double plays in three of which Robinson figured.

Typical of the crowds that have watched the Dodgers play since Jackie joined the team, 23,313 fans saw the game, although the weather was chilly and somewhat cloudy. Fri. 6-27-47

In the opening game of the Cub series last Monday, Robinson was at bat four times, got one hit but failed to score. The Dodgers tied the score in the second at 1-1 when Doyle Lade walked Jackie, forcing Reese home. They went on to win the game, 2 to 1, in the fifth with an unearned run, ending a Dodger five-game losing streak.

A crowd of 20,097 patrons saw the game.

# Chapman Leads In 'Bench Jockeying'

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md. Sat. 5-3-47

## Insults From Quakers First to Be Faced by Dodger First Sacker

BROOKLYN — Held hitless for his third consecutive game, Jackie Robinson was striving desperately to throw off a batting slump as the Brooklyn Dodgers entered their third week of National League baseball leading the loop with seven wins and two defeats.

Featuring the Bums' climb to the top berth was a display of unsportsmanly conduct on the part of the Philadelphia Phillies, who proved the first team to "ride" the new Dodger star.

With their manager, Ben Chapman, playing a major role in the jockeying, the sixth place Quakers jeered and cat-called from the bench throughout the series here, Tuesday to Thursday.

Numerous wise-cracks based on race were hurled at the stellar first baseman each time he appeared at the plate and whenever one of the visiting players passed near him in the field.

Robinson, however, collected three hits in the first two games of the series and did not enter his slump until the closing contest. Meanwhile, he played a prominent part in the feat as he and his mates swept the three games, 5-2, 1-0 and 2-0. Sat. 5-3-47

He tallied the deciding run in the 1-0 game and romped across the plate with one of the two tallies in the 2-0 shutout.

**Fields Faultlessly**

After failing to hit safely on Thursday, Jackie had Friday off because of rain. On Saturday against the New York Giants, he had three batting tries but scored neither a hit nor a run, and on Sunday, he tallied a run though failing to hit in four at bats.

Meanwhile, Jackie continued to field his position in sterling fashion, playing errorless ball. Except for one miscue in the third game of the campaign, he has handled everything coming his way flawlessly.

**TUESDAY**

| PHILADELPHIA | Ab. | R. | H. | O. | A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| [illegible],ss | 4 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Wy'stek,cf | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 2Handley | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| [illegible],lf | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Adams,rf | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Tabor,3b | 4 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| McC'ick,1b | 4 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 1 |
| [illegible],c | 4 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 1 |
| Verban,2b | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 4 |
| Judd,p | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Schanz,p | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 1LaPointe | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Mauney,p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 33 | 2 | 8 | 24 | 15 |

| BROOKLYN | Ab. | R. | H. | O. | A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stanky,2b | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Rob'son,1b | 4 | 2 | 1 | 11 | 0 |
| Reiser,cf | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Walker,rf | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Furillo,lf | 3 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 0 |
| Edwards,sc | 3 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| J'ensen,3b | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Reese,ss | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| Hatten,p | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| T't'ls | 31 | 5 | 10 | 27 | 13 |

1Singled for Schanz in eighth.
2Singled for Wyrostek in ninth.

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Philadelphia | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | —2 |
| Brooklyn | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | x | —5 |

Error — Verban. Runs batted in — Reiser, Furillo (2), McCormick. Two-base hits — Newsome, Reiser. Double plays—Reese, Stanky, Robinson; Verban, Newsome, McCormick; Mccormick, Tabor, Newsome; Jorgensen, Stanky, Robinson.

Winning pitcher—Hatten. Losing pitcher—Judd. Umpires—Jorda, Henline, Magerkurth, Stewart. Time—2.05. Attendance—8.812.

**WEDNESDAY**

| PHILADELPHIA | Ab. | R. | H. | O. | A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| News'e,ss | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| Wyro'k,cf | 4 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Ennis,lf | 3 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| Nort'ey,rf | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Tabor,3b | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| McCo'k,1b | 3 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| Semin'k,c | 2 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 1 |
| Verban,2b | 3 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 2 |
| Leon'rd,p | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 1Gilbert | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2Etten | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 29 | 0 | 1 | 24 | 6 |

| BROOKLYN | Ab. | R. | H. | O. | A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stanky,2b | 4 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| Robi'n,1b | 4 | 1 | 2 | 12 | 0 |
| Reiser,cf | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Walker,rf | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Herm'l,lf | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Edwards,c | 4 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 0 |
| Jorge'n3b | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Reese,ss | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Gregg,p | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Totals | 32 | 1 | 9 | 27 | 11 |

1Filed out for Newsome in ninth.
2Grounded out for Tabor in ninth.

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Philadelphia | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | —0 |
| Brooklyn | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | x | —1 |

Errors—Tabor, Seminick, Robinson. Run batted in—Hermanski. Two-base hit—Ennis. Stolen base—Robinson. Double play—Northey, Seminick. Left on bases—Philadelphia, 5; Brooklyn, 10. Base on balls—Gregg, 2; Leonard, 3. Strike outs, Gregg, 4; Leonard, 4. Hit by pitcher—By Gregg (Seminick). Umpires—Stewart, Jorda, Henline, Magerkurth. Time—2:02. Attendance—6,790.

**THURSDAY**

| PHILADELPHIA | Ab. | R. | H. | O. | A |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Newso'e,ss | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| LaPoi'e,ss | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| W'ros'k,cf | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Ennis,lf | 4 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| Nor'ey,rf | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Tabor,3b | 3 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 |
| McCo'k,1b | 4 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 |
| Se'nick,c | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Padgett,c | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| Verban,2b | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 5 |
| Hughes,p | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Don'elly,p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1Gilbert | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 2Etten | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3Mauney | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 32 | 0 | 6 | 24 | 9 |

| BROOKLYN | Ab. | R. | H. | O. | A |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stanky,2b | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 3 |
| Robin'n,1b | 4 | 1 | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Reiser,cf | 3 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 0 |
| Walker,rf | 4 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Herma'l,lf | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Edwards,c | 4 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| Jorge'n3b | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Reese,ss | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Branca,p | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Casey,p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Totals | 30 | 2 | 6 | 27 | 9 |

1Singled for Hughes in eighth.
2Fouled out for Newsome in eighth.
3Ran for Tabor in ninth.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Philadelphia.... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | 0 |
| Brooklyn........ | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | x | — | 2 |

Errors—McCormick, Verban. Runs batted in—Walker (2). Two-base hits—Seminick, McCormick, Ennis. Double plays—Verban, Newsome, McCormick; Casey, Stanky, Robinson.

Sat. 5-3-47

**SATURDAY**

| NEW YORK (N.L.) | ab | r | h | po | a |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gearhart,cf | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| Rigney,ss | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Marshall,rf | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Mize,1b | 3 | 1 | 0 | 9 | 0 |
| Cooper,c | 2 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| La Fata,lf | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Gordon,rf | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Th'ms'n,2b | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 5 |
| Lohrke,3b | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Voiselle,p | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Trinkle,p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Jansen,p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| *Witek | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| C'rpenter,p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Totals | 27 | 3 | 4 | 24 | 10 |

| BROOKLYN (N.L.) | ab | r | h | po | a |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stanky,2b | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Robinson,1b | 3 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 0 |
| Reiser,cf | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Walker,rf | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| Her'anski,lf | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Edwards,c | 4 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 1 |
| Jorgen'n,3b | 4 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 1 |
| Reese,ss | 2 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| Higbe,p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| †Vaughan | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lombardi,p | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Totals | 32 | 7 | 10 | 27 | 14 |

* Batted for Jansen in eighth inning and grounded out.
† Batted for Higbe in second inning and walked.
.. 1o aA m|tsa e

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NEW YORK............... | 022 | 000 | 001—3 |
| BROOKLYN ............... | 010 | 002 | 31x—7 |

Errors—None. Runs batted in—Thomson, Lohrke, Vaughan, Hermanski (2), Walker (2), Edwards (2), Marshall., Two-base hits—Stanky, Gearhart. Three-base hit—Jorgensen. Home run—Hermanski. Sacrifice—Robinson. Double plays—Stanky, Reese and Robinson; Reese, Stanky and Robinson.

**SUNDAY**

| NEW YORK (N.L) | ab | r | h | po | a |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| White,cf | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Gordon,lf | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Rigney,ss | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Marshall,rf | 5 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Mize,1b | 4 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 1 |
| Cooper,c | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Lafata,lf-cf | 3 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 0 |
| Tho'son,2b | 4 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| Lohrke,3b | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Koslo,p | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Thompson,p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 35 | 8 | 10 | 26 | 13 |

| BROOKLYN (N.L.) | ab | r | h | po | a |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stanky,2b | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Robinson,1b | 4 | 1 | 0 | 10 | 2 |
| Reiser,cf | 5 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 0 |
| Walker,rf | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Furillo,lf | 4 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| Edwards,c | 4 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 0 |
| cRackley | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Jorg'sen,3b | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Reese,ss | 4 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Gregg,p | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| Taylor,p | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Behrman,p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| aLund | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Chandler,p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| bLav'g'tto | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Casey,p | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Vaughan | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 35 | 9 | 12 | 27 | 13 |

* Two out when winning run scored.
a Walked for Behrman in sixth.
b Homered for Chandler in eighth.
c Run for Edwards in ninth.
c Walked for Casey in ninth.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NEW YORK............... | 111 | 040 | 100—8 |
| BROOKLYN ............... | 011 | 200 | 221—9 |

Runs batted in—Marshall, Cooper, Jorgensen, Mize (2), Reiser (2), Taylor (2), Lafata (2), Furillo (2), Lavagetto, Stanky.

Two-base hits—Rigney, Reiser (2), Thomson, Walker (2), Furillo. Three-base hit—Edwards. Home runs—Cooper, Mize, Furillo, Lavagetto. Sacrifices—Reese, Stanky. Double plays—Gregg and Robinson; Stanky, Reese and Robinson; Robinson and Reese.

# Robbie's .300 Tops All Bum Regulars

Afro-American Baltimore, Mo.

Sat. 6-28-47

## Only Furillo, Lavagetto Show Better Averages Than Infielder

CINCINNATI—Jackie Robinson skyrocketed to the top of the Brooklyn Dodgers' batting last week when he garnered his 67th hit of the year, a slashing single to center in the second game of a double-header with the Cincinnati Reds.

The 1946 International League batting champion and the most discussed rookie of the year was hitting an even .300 as the Dodgers divided a double-header with the Redbirds, losing the first, 6-0, and taking the nightcap, 9-8.

Only two players on the Bums' roster, Carl Furillo, alternate outfielder, and Cookie Lavagetto, reserve infielder, show better offensive marks than Robbie. The latter leads all the Dodger regulars and has obtained more hits than any other man on the squad.

Furillo, who alternates with Gene Hermanski in leftfield, boasts an average of .324, but he has played in but 36 games, most of them against left-handed pitching. Hermanski takes over the post whenever a right-hander is working for the opposition. Lavagetto has appeared in only 18 games and has thus maintained an average of .310 for the campaign.

Robinson also leads the National League in stolen bases and is among the first four in the matter of runs scored.

Sat. 6-28-47

| Line-up | G | AB | H | Pct. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stanky,2b | 52 | 204 | 48 | .235 |
| Robinson,1b | 55 | 223 | 67 | .300 |
| Furillo,lf | 36 | 111 | 36 | .324 |
| Hermanski,lf | 35 | 107 | 28 | .262 |
| Walker,rf | 52 | 182 | 53 | .290 |
| Reiser,cf | 41 | 146 | 40 | .274 |
| Edwards,c | 47 | 172 | 50 | .291 |
| Reese,ss | 55 | 181 | 44 | .243 |
| Jorgenson,3b | 38 | 129 | 35 | .271 |

Sat. 6-28-47

### Robbie High in Poll

CHICAGO —Jackie Robinson, Brooklyn Dodger first-baseman, is third among the aspirants to the position on the National League all-star team. Robinson, up to Sunday, had garnered 51,463 votes, trailing Johnny Mize of the New York Giants, with 178,294, and Stan Musial, Cardinals, with 91,722.

all the world's athletes holds a better-than-ever chance of going to the Olympic Games twelve years after he won the world jumping title in Berlin in 1936.

*Small Beginning*

New Republic N.Y., N.Y.

SIR: The news story, "Rookie," in the May 19 *New Republic* ends on a happy note. Jackie Robinson had bashed out a double and a single, and relayed a fly to first for a brilliant double play. Those of us among your readers who don't follow the sports pages may assume that the first Negro major-league ball player is now well on his way to being integrated.

Mon. 6-9-47

As a Philadelphian born, however, I must hold that at least my native city must remove from itself the vicious absurdity of being the only place in the league, apart from St. Louis, where Robinson is denied a hotel room along with his teammates. Then, when the other Brooklyn players accept the gentlemanly, intelligent and competent Robinson as their equal on the field and in the locker room, more of us will accept the fact that integration is under way.

Mon. 6-9-47

JOHN BRUBAKER,
Advertising Manager, the *Commonweal*
*New York City*

# Robinson Sparks Brooklyn String

B'ham., Ala. News Fri. 6-27-47

BY JACK HAND
Associated Press Sports Writer

Jackie Robinson, the Brooklyn first baseman, has come through under extreme pressure to become an important factor in the Dodgers' rise to the National League lead.

Batting .302 after last night's 8-6 thrilling win over Boston, Robinson rates with the best rookies of the season.

Through the West, it was Robinson's batting that started the Brooklyn club on a victory string that now measures eight out of nine. In Pittsburgh he stole home against Fritz Ostermueller with a tie-breaking run.

AFTER BOSTON, fighting desperately to hold first place, rallied for five runs to tie the Dodgers, 6-6, at Ebbets Field last night, Robinson's eighth inning double started the victorious two-run splurge.

Dodger pitching continued to wobble in the important game with the Braves. Even Joe Hatten, who never has lost to Boston, faded. Not even Fireman Hugh Casey could stop the Boston club in the five-run eighth and Manager Burt Shotton had to call on Ralph Branca.

Bily Southworth threw 18 Braves into the fray with the loss finally being charged to the veteran St. Johnson while Ralph Branca accepted his 10th win for 11-3 innings of work. Fri. 6-27-47

The Dodger win gave them a half game lead over the Braves and a full game over the New York Giants who, like the Phillies, were idle.

# Robinson Faces 'Jimcro' At St. Louis, Philly

Atlanta, Ga. Daily World

Sun. 7-13-47

NEW YORK—(ANP) — Only two cities bar him from the same hotel the rest of the Dodger baseball team occupies, said Jackie Robinson, Brooklyn star, in an interview with a white reporter last week.

Philadelphia and St. Louis were named as the two prejudiced cities where he is denied hotel accomodations. Sun. 7-13-47

The St. Louis Cardinals are the most friendly team, says Jackie, and the Chicago Cubs the most bitter.

In a recent game against Cincinnati when Ewell Blackwell's second nohitter was spoiled by Ed Stanky, it is reported that the Red's pitcher called Jackie an ugly name and Jackie returned the compliment. This ended the unpleasantness.

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

# This is My Story

Sat. 3-29-47

FINAL INSTALLMENT

By **JACKIE ROBINSON**

**(As Told to Sam Lacy)**

HAVANA, Cuba—Getting through the 1946 International League season was a job in itself, but another equally as difficult confronted me when the Louisville Colonels emerged victors in the American Association pennant race.

"I immediately became aware of the fact that my lot was to play in a hostile environment once again. Kentucky, I felt, was another Southern State and the same things must be endured which I had faced in Florida in the spring and in Baltimore in the summer.

"I feared it would be even worse playing in Louisville because there I could expect the indignation of the fans as well as the animosity of the opposing players.

"In Baltimore, the fans were critical, but the players were reasonably cordial. And in Syracuse, the players were rough but the fans were okay. Louisville, I felt certain, would offer both.

Then, too, I realized that in this meeting, the chips were really down. A Little World Series is very important to the contending teams and their followers. Everything goes!

**AFRO Breaks News**

"There was some question whether Louisville would play against me. And Rachel, my wife, and I prayed every night that there would be no demand that I be left at home or taken out of the lineup. Sat. 3-29-47

"We knew that if such were the case, Mel Jones, our general manager, and Mr. Rickey would refuse to comply, and that the series, in all probability, would be cancelled. We didn't want this to happen for anything in the world!

"I was so happy when I picked up an AFRO and read for the first time that the Louisville management had stated there would be no objection to my playing.

"The opening days of the series with the Colonels were very trying days for me. The fans were giving me the business in no uncertain terms.

**"Rachel wasn't there.** She had **made most of the trip with me during the season and had been the source of much consolation for me when things were looking sour.** But she was at home preparing for the arrival of Jackie, Junior, born in late November. Consequently, I felt very much alone.

"I had been lucky enough to win the batting championship of our league and the Louisville forces were bent on keeping me bottled up. Nothing I did seemed right, and all of this worked in their favor. Fans and players alike gave me a thorough going-over. To be perfectly honest, I was a pretty sorry case.

"It made little difference, though, to the Montreal Club and to the many sportswriters who had proved **so friendly all through the season.**

**Tried Too Hard**

"They kept telling me not to worry, that everything would be all right. I couldn't let such confidence be misplaced. I tried too hard, I suppose, and left Louisville a rather dismal failure.

"Back in Montreal, I found myself and got several hits that helped out in the battle to the wire. Sat. 3-29-47

"When, at the close of the series, the Montreal fans rushed from the stands and lifted me to their shoulders, I know I was the happiest man in the world.

"I knew I was among a host of warm friends, that nowhere on earth could there breathe a wealtheir person than I.

"This was the crowning glory for me; this was evidence that the brotherhood of man could invade the precincts of organized baseball with nobody suffering from the experience.

**My Chief Hope**

**Today, I am here for my second training season with Montreal.** Many persons are watching developments, anxiously awaiting the answer to the question: Can Jackie Robinson make the Brooklyn Dodgers?

"Personally, I'm not too concerned about whether I move up. I'm more concerned about how I move up.

"If I do, I sincerely hope that it will be because I'm a BETTER player—not because I'm a COLORED player."——THE END.

# 'Father' Jackie Robinson Interested in Youth Work

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

**Montreal Star Has Been Spending Off-Season Making Speeches to Youngsters and Helping YMCA Put Over Program. He Has Also "Gone Overboard" for His Newly Born Son, Jackie Jr.**

Sat. 1-25-47

By **J. CULLEN FENTRESS**

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—The youth of the Nation have a great champion in organized baseball's Jackie Robinson, and if this inspirational figure has his way, he is going to make an indelible contribution to society because of his interest in boys' work.

Robinson, who made good in a big way last year with the Montreal Royals of the International League as the first Negro in modern organized baseball, has been voluntarily appearing before YMCA groups and boys' clubs in California and Arizona, aside from playing golf, professional basketball and being a proud papa to his two-month old son during the fall and winter seasons.

Working with Walter Worrill of the Pasadena YMCA, Jackie has spoken before "Y" meetings here and in Pasadena, Mexican groups in the latter city, and white and colored boys' clubs in Phoenix, Ariz. Sat. 1-25-47

Robinson, when addressing white groups, stresses organization and teamwork; when talking to Mexican boys, counsels on minority problems, and when invited to speak to Negro boys, emphasizes the importance of good conduct.

The writer heard him several weeks ago when he was one of the guest speakers at the annual Jefferson High School football banquet, and to say that Robinson inspired the boys is to put it mildly. He has a way with them.

Playing golf regularly for the first time this summer, Jackie has broken 80 twice, and expects to continue to make progress if he can get on the fairways as often as he would like.

For the first time in the history of pro basketball here, local cage fans saw an interracial combination this season the likes of which was hard to beat. And one of its stars was Robinson.

Known as the Los Angeles Red Devils, Jack Duddy, owner-coach, the combination consisted of three Negro players and four whites, beating some of the best pro outfits in the country.

On the roster with Jackie were Robert Cotton of Texas Wesleyan; Art Stoefen of Stanford; Irv Noren of Pasadena Junior College; Eddie Oram of Southern California; Ziggy Marcell of the Globe Trotters, and George Crowe of Indiana Central.

One very important reason that accounts for Robinson's interest in boys and their welfare is his 11-pound, 6-ounce son, Jack Roosevelt Robinson Jr. Sat. 1-25-47

And young Jackie Jr., and quite a few of the other boyys of this city and county may expect to profit in the future from the invaluable experience of Junior's father—because he wants to contribute his bit toward curbing juveline delinquency and developing them into substantial citizens.

# Jackie Bats .667 In Tilts

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

Sat. 3-29-47

By **WENDELL SMITH**

**Sports Editor**

HAVANA, Cuba — When the Brooklyn Dodgers and the Montreal Royals arrived here Saturday in their specially chartered planes from Panama, there was one player's name on everybody's lips "Jackie Robinson."

Not even the roar of the big four-engined planes could drown out the plaudits of those who saw the husky, speedy star perform against the Dodgers and strong independent teams the past six days in the Canal Zone area. If Jackie Robinson was sensational in the International League last season with Montreal, then he has been super-sensational this spring in training camp tilts.

Last year he was the best hitter in the International League. He won the batting championship with a mark of .349, and now he seems to have taken up where he left off last September. If there is any difference in the playing of the ex-UCLA "wonder boy' it is that he is a better ball player than ever before.

**HITTING CONSITENT**

Robinson, for instance, has been to bat 30 times in these exhibition games and banged out 20 hits. He has hit everything from bunts to home runs and has been a terror on the base paths. Nor has he chosen any particular class of teams to star against. He has done the same things against the big league Dodgers that he has done against the best teams from Cuba and Panama.

Robinson has faced Brooklyn pitching eight times. Five of those times he has hit safely. Montreal has made a total of four runs off the Dodgers and Jackie has been responsible for half of those runs.

**STARS AGAINST BROOKLYN**

Last Thursday in Panama the sepia whiz kid showed the mighty Dodgers how he raised havoc in the International League and made opposing managers pull their hair out by the roots. Although Brooklyn won the game, 10 to 3, Robinson's one-man riot act overshadowed everything the big leaguers did. He went to the plate four times, for instance, and hit safely three.

**CLICKS AT FIRST**

He scored one of Montreal's runs and played a brilliant game at first base. The significant thing about this performance, however, was not the fact that he got three hits, rather, it was the way he got them. Two of those three hits were tantalizing bunts that caught the big leaguers flat-footed each time.

The first time at bat Jackie was "robbed" of a base blow by the Dodgers' great shortstop Pee Wee Reese, who went far to his right and came up with a sensational stop and then threw Jackie out by a step. Sat. 3-29-47

The next three times, however, Reese nor anyone else could keep him off the base paths. His second time at bat, Robinson hit a sizzler straight down the third base line. Arky Vaughn made a great stop on the play but wasn't able to throw Robinson out. In the fifth inning Jackie laid down a perfect bunt along the third base line. When the surprised Vaughn and the equally surprised pitcher, Hausser, did get to the ball, Jackie was zooming past first base.

The next time he came to bat Jackie duplicated the previous bunting episode. Only this time he dumped it down the first base line, and before anyone could even put their hands on the ball, he was on first base.

Both of these bunts were accomplished so deftly that the crowd rose as one and gave Jackie a great ovation. When crowds start giving demonstrations for bunting it must mean that the man they are saluting is more than just an ordinary ball player. In this particular contest—strange as it may seem—not a single throw was made to first base to nip Robinson after Reese threw him out in the first inning.

The next three times he batted he never hit the ball out of the infield and yet not a single Dodger had a chance to throw him out at first base. Vaughn knocked the ball down but saw it was useless to throw at the high-flying Negro star. His other two hits were bunts.

No play was made on either of them. Robinson was across first base before Vaughn could get to the ball in the fifth, and it was the same thing in the seventh, for when Eddie Stanky did get to the ball on that particular occasion, Robinson was standing on first.

Stanky was so moved emotionally by the way Robinson had tricked the entire Brooklyn infield that he immediately called for time. When his request was granted, the fiery second sacker took the ball Robinson had bunted and threw it over the grandstand and out into the street.

Stanky later explained that he wasn't angry at Robinson, but simply vexed because Jackie had tricked the Brooklyn infield two times in succession on bunts.

So, as the training camp grind enters its final stages, Jackie Robinson stands out as the outstanding player in Branch Rickey's baseball orchard.

## PROMOTING TOLERANCE

St. Louis Argus St. Louis, Mo.

A business corporation of Playtex Park, Dover, Delaware, has placed in three daily newspapers in Chicago (and perhaps in papers of other cities) a paid advertisement calling attention to the treatment of Jackie Robinson.

Last year, Jackie Robinson was placed on a baseball team in Montreal. This team furnishes players for the Dodgers, a national baseball team of Brooklyn, New York. This was an innovation in the baseball world. No Negro man had played on any of the national teams and because they had not, the presumption on the part of many was that they should not and could not.

Fri. 5-23-47

Now that Robinson is regularly playing on the Brooklyn team, there are those who would seek to wound him and embarrass him.

To arouse a vigorous sentiment and create public opposition to any such procedure, this paid for advertisement is published in these daily papers.

It seems that some talk leaked from a lounge of ball players to the effect that a strike would be waged as a protest against Robinson's playing in a national league.

Then there was some suspicion that the baseball fans might seek to harrass and frustrate Robinson while the game was in progress.

Some rude people had written letters and by this means sought to intimidate the Negro player.

It is not unlikely that white southerners, who now are distributed over the nation, and who seek to inflame the public with their ideas of a caste system are very busy impressing their provincial ideas upon other people. They would be happy to report that people in other sections of the nation share their attitude and resent the breaking down of the bars of segregation.

Fri. 5-23-47

This paid advertisement shows that our democracy is still alive with a few people. Here is a vigorous and earnest protest against any unseemly conduct toward Jackie Robinson. Here is a plea for tolerance, for justice, and equitable dealing for every citizen in the United States.

We do not believe this is a voice crying in the wilderness as of old, lamenting that only he is left. We believe that while there may not be the number which John saw, there are distributed throughout the country, many citizens who believe in democracy and mean to practice it.

## Let's Restrain Ourselves!

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

At last the dream of millions of Americans has come true and a black man is playing as a member of a major league baseball team, thus bringing to happy fruition the long effort of The Pittsburgh Courier in this direction.

Now that Jackie Robinson has broken the ice it is very likely that other clubs will have Negro players in the very near future, so we think it is timely now to urge Negroes to restrain themselves, take it easy and give Jackie Robinson a break.

By that we mean there should be no wild demonstrations when Jackie Robinson simply walks out of the dugout, although such are correct when he or any other player, regardless of color, actually does something to cheer about.

In short, there is no reason for staging demonstrations simply because Jackie Robinson is a black man, and the less such scenes there are the better he will like it because he will suffer less embarrassment.

We are sure that he would prefer to be regarded as just another major league baseball player trying to do his best rather than an idol on a pedestal.

Again, over-enthusiastic Negro fans who can see only Jackie Robinson do not help him to get on any better with his teammates who will become better adjusted to the unprecedented situation in the degree that they regard him as an individual rather than a symbol of the Negro group.

Since we contend rightly for equality of opportunity, with all being on the same basis, let us be civilized enough to accept this evidence of American progress and fairplay as what is expected.

Sat. 4-26-47

Admittedly such advice is hard for many to follow, all things considered, but our cause will be furthered more rapidly if all of us try.

Sat. 4-26-47

# In this Corner

Daily Worker

## About the 'Loneliest' Man in Baseball

New York, N.Y.

**By Bill Mardo**

**THE DEJECTED** figure at the far end of the Dodger bench . . . only formally acknowledged by his teammates . . . ignored in the normal clubhouse banter . . . Jackie Robinson—the ol"neliest" man in baseball. You'd be surprised at the credence this false picture of Jackie Robinson has gained in fandom circles, and the fault isn't theirs, but belongs to the handful of scribes who've created this concept because it makes interesting reading or provides some with the chance to wax poetic in fiery fashion.

Some well-meaning friends have accused this page of glossing over Jackie Robinson's difficulties in his Dodger freshman year. **"You're not helping Robinson by saying it's not so,"** they cry. **"How can everything be honky-dory when only last week at the Dodger-Giant series I saw Robinson the last man to leave the clubhouse and walk onto the diamond all by himself."**

Tues. 7-15-47

What does Jackie Robinson have to say about that? He laughs at it—but you can also find a trace of annoyedness in his tones. **"I've always been slow in getting out of the clubhouse. If I happen to be the last man out and slow about catching up to the rest of the gang, well, there I am, a 'dejected' figure!"**

I like the way Sam Maltin, sports columnist of the progressive **Canadian Tribune**, reported Robby's loneliness on a Toronto train during the recent Dodger visit with the Montreal Royals.

Listen: "Jackie Robinson was lonesome as he got into that lower. Only once in a while one of the other Brooklynites spoke to him. Like the time when Gene Hermanski walked into the car a minute before the train pulled out and asked Jackie if the berth next to him was empty and how he just made the train. Gene and Robby talked for a few minutes and Gene went out looking for the buffet car. Johnny 'Spider' Jorgensen came by and asked Jackie how he enjoyed the ball game, the one that was rained out. Most of the other Bums wasted little time in getting into their berths.

**"So there you have it. Jack Robinson, the lonesomest man in baseball. Fine bunch of teammates on that Brooklyn club. Why weren't they playing cards, singing or throwing a party, so that Jackie could join in. No, they wouldn't. The selfish bunch of Bums went right to bed and Jackie was forced to do nothing but follow suit. It was only midnight, too, and 14 hours of travelling ahead of them."**

* * *

Let me add to Maltin's comment. Sure there was some strain when Jackie first came up. The "situation" had been played up to the high heavens. Everyone was aware of baseball's first Negro. But it was never quite what some writers painted it to be. I saw that for myself in Sanford, Florida, when Jackie first reported to the Royals. An understandable self consciousness which the other players felt almost as much as Jackie himself. That historic turn in baseball's affairs couldn't have been anything else. But it was never the utter ostracism and antagonisms which some wrote it to be. And by the time I left Florida, two weeks after Robby reported—and a full month before the season started—he was already just another ballplayer, coming in for his share of chatter and kibitzing. And by the time the International League season was half over, Jackie's ballplaying ability plus the healthy normal instincts of most players, had borne its inevitable fruit.

**THE SAME** holds true for Jackie's debut as a Dodger. If there was a small minority who didn't like Robby's entry into the International Loop, their breed was also present in the National League. Even on the Dodger club. But utterly false were the many pre-season rumors that "90 percent of the Dodgers" didn't want Robinson. Later the abortive "general strike" against Robinson only helped re-stir the old witches' brew pot and that's when this picture of a "lonely, dejected" Robinson hit its peak. And that's when some careless gossips added this business of Robinson never getting a hand-shake when he hit a homer.

Tues. 7-15-47

I even got a letter from two fans who swore to me that with their own eyes they saw Robinson's initial homer at the Polo Grounds go ignored by his teammates. "The next man up didn't even shake Jackie's hand as he crossed home-plate."

**That Tom Tatum, the man in the batter's box, DID mitt Robby as he came over, isn't the point. After all, it isn't strange that some people have their eyes play tricks on them with all the phony stuff peddled in print about Robinson's association with his teammates. But I, for one, wish the sideshow approach to Robinson would end on the part of even his most well-meaning friends. Because it just isn't so. If you're one who'll never rest content till Jackie is publicly hugged and kissed by every last man of a Dodger, then believe me, you've got quite a wait. Ballplayers—or any other group of workers—just don't behave that way.**

Let Jackie Robinson sum up: **"I don't know why some writers insist on picking on every little insignificant incident to make a mountain out of it. I have no kick about the treatment I'm getting in the clubhouse or on the field. It's like working in a shop or an office, you get along better with some fellows working next to you, and don't with others.**

"That's all there is to it."

# Tom Meany:

P.M., New York, N.Y.

## Dodger Speed Makes Up For Lack of HR Power

Fri. 9-12-47

ST. LOUIS

As long ago as last Spring a great deal was made of the fact that nobody in the entire Dodger organization had hit more than a dozen home runs. Indeed, of all the farm hands the most impressive total was that compiled by Gil Hodges, catching for Newport News, and he didn't even make double figures. It was pointed out that with the right field wall so inviting at Ebbets Field, it was most improvident not to have a basher on the premises, working for your side.

There was great speed among the flower and youth of the Brooklyn organization but no punch. Impressive base stealing totals were hung up by Marvin Rackley, Jackie Robinson and others. One lad, Maynard De Witt, operating out of Zanesville, stole 100-odd bases before he was through. It was suggested that Branch Rickey was sacrificing power for speed and that his insistence upon speed might turn out to be the mote in the Deacon's eye.

It has worked out pretty much that way. The home run that Eddie Stanky belted against Bob Chipman in Chicago Wednesday was only the 69th collected by a Dodger. And as the Brooks went into last night's game against the Cards here, there had been 99 hit against Brooklyn pitchers. When you consider that the Giants are well on their way to 200 home runs, it can be seen that the Dodgers are somewhat lacking on this robust item.

Despite this lack of punch, the Dodgers can get runs more easily than any club in the game, a tribute to the club's overall speed. In the last set of official figures, they had scored more runs than any club in the league, although only a minority of them came across on home runs. Fri. 9-12-47

***Brooks Capitalize On Errors and Outs***

A cab driver ferrying a group of writers to Sportsman's Park last night expressed himself on the Dodgers, in the informal idiom employed by hackies the world over.

"Them Brooklyns," he snorted derisively. "They ain't got nobody can hit a home run. They remind me of a pack of leeches, always hanging around waiting for somebody to make an error."

The cabbie rather oversimplified it, but it is true that the Dodgers are getting as much mileage out of errors and infield outs as the Giants are getting from their home runs. In the first game in Chicago Tuesday, all three Dodger runs were scored while a batter was being thrown out, and of the five runs in Wednesday's game two rode in on Stanky's homer and an error and an infield out each accounted for other runs.

Robinson is the most spectacular of the Dodgers at scoring cheap runs. Jackie's great speed enables him to take the extra base and he has made it pay dividends more than once. Outside of the venerable, and valuable, Dixie Walker, all of the boys can carry the mail. Barney Shotton has given the club its head in the matter of running and the fact that the opposition knows this tends to make them jumpy against the Dodgers. There are more hurried throws against Brooklyn than any club in the league.

This isn't a brief in favor of speed over home runs but merely the observation that the Dodgers, lacking the long ball hitters, have come up with the next best thing in speedy-legged runners. They run with the same abandon of Billy Southworth's 1942 Cardinals. And they hope it will pay off as well. Fri. 9-12-47

# Fans Unfair To Dodger Player

Chicago Defender, Chicago, Ill.

## Many Attempt To 'Horn' In On Jackie

Sat. 5-3-47

**A number of Chicago citizens already have started planning testimonials and dinners for Jackie Robinson, Negro first baseman of the Brooklyn Dodgers who are here Sunday and Monday, May 18 and 19, for a two-game stand against the Chicago Cubs at Wrigley Field.**

A dozen or more have worried the Chicago Defender's sport department concerning planned entertainments for Robinson. Such plans do not fit into the picture.

Branch Rickey, in his offices in Brooklyn, N. Y., is firm in his belief that Robinson will live up to all expectations but he has fears that the actions of the Negroes themselves may retard Jackie's progress in the major leagues.

"They," Rickey exclaimed, and he meant the Negro fans, "treat Robinson as if he were a 'freak' and not a ball player of ability." If the present demands on his services outside of baseball continues, Rickey stated, Robinson is in danger. "He needs rest—and he needs time to eat his meals," the Brooklyn club president stated.

**Declaring Robinson to be on the verge of complete prostration, Rickey went on to say that Jackie had received at least 5,000 letters inviting him to all sorts of events, including church socials, YMCA testimonials, neighbor club fetes, parties and what not.**

Rickey was emphatic when he said "there are too many well-wishers and entirely too many trying to "cash in on Robinson's popularity, too many trying to exploit him. It would be best for all these people to let Robinson ALONE."

• • •

**OUT AT WRIGLEY FIELD,** a Chicago Cubs official was very plain. "The Robinson experiment is being watched with a great deal of interest," he said. "Some baseball men are hostile but others are genuinely sympathetic and hope that the experiment will prove successful. Sat. 5-3-47

"Everything we have seen of Robinson indicates he will be a credit to baseball and that his presence should pave the way for others of his race providing that his Negro followers are content to support him as another good ball player and not try to make a 'Roman Holiday' of every appearance he makes in town.

"Wrigley Field treats all customers alike, regardless of color or creed. We only hope that Robinson's first appearance here will NOT bring out a bunch of quarrelsome troubleseekers, whether they be white or black, and we shall certainly take steps to eject from the park anybody who doesn't come out just to enjoy a healthful afternoon in the sunshine, watching a major league baseball game."

To this we add: "Amen."

• • •

**FROM POLICE** Commissioner Pendergrast's office, it was learned, as we go to press, that, in answer to Fay Young's column in last week's issue, Sgt. Bob Harness will head a special squad of 10 Negro police officers from the Southside who will be stationed at Wrigley Field on May 18. Sgt. Harness told the Chicago Defender that among those 10 will be Sylvester Washington, better known as "Two-Gun Pete" and Bill Davis, another top-notch officer. Sat. 5-3-47

Wrigley Field officials will not tolerate any whiskey bottle toters nor those who carry pints and half pints in their hip pockets. Those who haven't washed their filthy mouths out with soap and salt better stay as far away from Addison and Clark as the Stockyards at 47th and Ashland.

**AN EDITORIAL**

# Jackie Robinson Day

Tues.

TODAY is "Jackie Robinson Day" over at Ebbets Field.

The popular Dodger first baseman will receive an automobile and other gifts from the fans in the tradition of such affairs. Daily Worker

The "Day" for an athlete is an old American custom. Jackie's is just one of many for the Dodgers, which is exactly as it should be for a team which went to the top on balanced team strength and unmatched team spirit.

Yet there is something special about this "Day." For Jackie Robinson is not just another ballplayer. He is the first Negro to ever play in the big leagues, the man whose name will be forever linked with the smashing of Jim-crow discrimination in our National Pastime. 9-23-47

When he steps up to home plate before today's game and the crowd stands up and sends the applause roaring over Bedford Avenue, the cheers will be for a great competitor and remarkable athlete. But more than that they will be an expression of the abundantly democratic spirit of the average American. N.Y. N.Y.

## Jackie Robinson

Atlanta Daily World, Ga.

Jackie Robinson's selection last week by the editors of Sporting, News, official baseball magazine as the Ace Rookie for the 1947 baseball season is a splendid testimony of the genius of American democracy and a laudable tribute to a character already rich in attainment and promise.

The editors, in stating the grounds on which they made their selection made it clear that Mr. Robinson was chosen solely on the grounds of concrete achievement including Jackie's ability as "a hitter, runner, fielder, and a team man." The important and noteworthy fact of Jackie's contribution as a trail-blazer in breaking down racial barriers did not enter into the consideration of the editors at all. And yet, from our own stand point much of the greatness and significance of Robinson's consideration would be lost if we did not take into consideration his great contribution to interracial goodwill and mutual understanding. 9-11-47 Sun.

Robinson has demonstrated that Negroes, if given the opportunity, can prove their worth and value in competitive sports. He came into the National League under tremendous odds because he went to the Dodgers at the last minute and was shifted out of position. He came with the added handicap of color-prejudice. But like a good soldier, he bravely and quietly surmounted both of these. Today he is tremendously popular with his teammates and with the great American public. He is modest and wears his laurels with grace and dignity. By his personal habits and his public conduct, Robinson has not only been the harbinger of better interracial amity in America but has likewise broken down the iron barriers to Negro players and has thus quickened the tempo with other members of our racial group may become integrated more fully into the various phases of American life. And we commend his modesty, his character and his industry to other Negro men and women.

# It's Jackie Robinson Day

P.M.

**Today is Jackie Robinson's turn to have a "Day" with all the trimmings including a shiny new Cadillac—but he'll probably treasure most the thunderous ovation of Ebbets Field's Faithful as he steps to the microphone.**

**And there are the same democratic minded fans of Brooklyn who six months ago applauded his entry on the Dodger roster, and watched their new first baseman develop into a topnotch big leaguer worthy of his Rookie of The Year honors.** Tues.

Jackie is batting an even .300 on his "Day" is tied for club homerun leadership with Peewee Reese at a dozen circuit clouts, has scored 124 runs for the 148 games he has played, and leads the league with 27 stolen bases. His speed, continually improving play at a strange position, and dependable base-knocking have made him one of the big difference between last year's second placers and the 1947 National League champs.

Jackie's "Day" is being sponsored by the New York Amsterdam News, a Negro weekly, and the Inter-Racial Citizens Committee. The Amsterdam News Welfare Committee will present Jackie with a plaque in recognition of his outstanding contributions not only to the Dodgers, but toward furtherance of inter-racial goodwill.

# Back Injury Benches Jackie; Dodgers Lose

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

## Suffers Wrench in Fielding Play; Will Be Ready for Western Swing

By STAFF CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK—Suffering a back injury sustained Saturday when he whirled attempting to make a back-hand stab of a ball hit to his right, Jackie Robinson, Brooklyn Dodgers' first baseman, was benched Sunday during the final of a four-game series with the New York Giants, won by the latter at the Polo Grounds, 7-6.

The injury occurred in the ninth inning when the Giants' Willard Marshall banged a grass-cutting single between Robbie and Ed Stanky.

Given Sunday and Monday to recover, Robinson is expected to be in condition to appear in the lineup Tuesday when the Dodgers travel to Chicago to meet the Cubs in a two-game series.

**Idolized by Thousands**

Despite being out of the lineup Sunday, Robinson was idol of thousands of fans. Although Manager Burt Shotton gave him a day of rest because of the injury, Robinson was in uniform.

He was swamped by thousands of fans after the game until several policemen went to his rescue by plowing a path to his waiting car.

Jackie played flawless on defense in three games with 29 putouts without an error.

Summaries of play-by-play with Robinson in three games:

THURSDAY — (Dodgers 2, Giants 0) 1st, lined first pitch against left field wall for double, advanced to third on single by Pete Reiser, scored Dodgers' first run as Gene Hermanski was thrown out; 3rd, grounded out, second to first; 5th, rolled out, third to first; 8th, rolled out, second to first—four at bats, one hit, one run, no rbi.

FRIDAY — (Dodgers 7, Giants 6) 1st; safe when Jack Lohrke threw wide of first base, scored on home run by Dixie Walker; 2nd, reached first safely on a fielder's choice, died on base; 4th, flied to left center; 7th, walked, died on base; 8th, rolled to pitcher—three at bats, no hits, one run, no rbi.

SATURDAY—(Giants 3, Dodgers 2) 1st, hit two-bagger into center field, tagged out on wide lead off second base; 3rd, flied to left; 6th, flied to left; 8th, rolled out, short to first—four at bats, one hit, no runs, no rbi.

# Jackie Robinson Rookie of Year

Atlanta Constitution, Atlanta, Ga.

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 12—(AP)—Jackie Robinson, the Brooklyn Dodgers' 28-year-old Negro first baseman, was given the Sporting News' Rookie of the Year Award today.

The choice of Robinson, described by Editor J. G. Taylor Spink as "spectacularly outstanding," was on the basis of "stark baseball values," the paper said.

"Robinson was rated and examined solely as a freshman player in the big leagues—on the basis of his hitting, his running, his defensive play, his team value," Spink wrote. Sat. 9-13-47

"The sociological experiment that Robinson represented, the trail-blazing he did, the barriers he broke down, did not enter into the decision."

Robinson joined the Dodgers last April from Montreal. He has laid down 42 successful bunts, 14 of them beaten out for hits and 28 sacrifices. His stolen base total is 25. And he has hit 10 home runs. He ran his batting average up to .317 in June when he exhibited a 21-game hitting streak, dropped to .253 in July and during August hit at a .311 clip.

## The Dodgers Prove A Point

From Louisville Register

Journal and Guide, Norfolk, Va. 9-30-47

WHEN the board of strategy of the Brooklyn Dodgers announced at the opening of the season that Jackie Robinson, Negro star of the International League, was to be their regular first base man, there was much shaking of heads The woods were full of gloomy prophets who foretold race riots and violence. They said it just wouldn't work. No Negro player had ever been accepted in the Major Leagues and "the time just wasn't ripe for it."

Time has refuted these prophets. Despite a few tense situations in the early part of the season, Robinson is still playing first base for the Dodgers, and incidentally turning in a bang-up job. His .300-plus hitting and flashy base running have made him a leading contender for rookie honors of the year. But the important thing is that his presence in the line-up is now seemingly taken for granted and there are no more rumors of riots or sit-down strikes among the other players.

The best proof of the success of the Brooklyn experiment is that two other major league clubs recently have added Negro players to their rosters and nobody seems much concerned about it. Fans and players alike are asking the only question which should be asked about any newcomers to the top brackets of the national pastime—can they measure up to the standards of major league ball?

There is a rather important moral in all this. What has happened in major league baseball this season can happen in all the aspects of our political, economic and educational life—if someone just has the courage and decency to take the initiative. Every time an effort is made to change the immoral pattern of race prejudice, which is the repudiation of every basic principle of our Christian and democratic civilization, there is always someone ready to jump up and say "the time isn't ripe." Unfortunately we have allowed ourselves to be bluffed over and over again by this evasive and cowardly argument.

All honor to the much-maligned Dodgers for having the hard-headed common sense to call the bluff, and showing it up for what it is. The time is always "ripe" to give bone and substance to the principle of Christian democracy. It may sound odd to say so, but our school systems, our political parties, our industries and our labor unions could learn a whole lot from the Dodgers. 8-30-47

# In this Corner

## An Early Vote For 'Most Valuable'

Daily Worker, New York, N. Y.

By Bill Mardo Fri. 9-5-47

DAVE EGAN, the Boston Record's fine colyummer, has cast a Rookie of The Year vote for Jackie Robinson. So has the U.P.'s Steve Snider and probably other scribes whom I didn't catch while vacationing. That vote, you know, is a purely mythical proposition and not to be confused with the Most Valuable Player Awards balloted annually by the New York chapter of the Baseball Writers' Association. But the invisible "Rookie" award, and the frequency which Robinson's name is associated with it, give you idea of his chances for the local scribes' vote as league "Most Valuable."

Should the Dodgers clinch the pennant, and I believe they're in, Robinson's chances increase two-fold. It's a rare thing when someone other than a member of the league champs wins the award. Of course it can happen—because there's a guy in Cincinnati who is the year's greatest pitcher and I do mean Ewell.

There are plenty who'll lay odds that Blackwell gets it regardless of how the Dodgers finish. And that wouldn't be too surprising. Man, how he does throw a ball!

**But for my money (AND my Association vote) Robinson is the man. He's the one big difference between last year's second placers and the current league leaders. Without him there'd be no six odd games separating Brooklyn and St. Louis. But I dare say there WOULD be that chronic weak spot in the Dodger batting order, as been the case since the great Dolphus Camilli went back to the ranch. Without Robinson there'd be none of that almost certain guarantee of a run whenever he takes two bases on an ordinary single, and then scores in a million different ways—stealing, distracting the pitcher into losing a count on the batter, or serving up a soft one, etc. He's the base-running pest the Dodgers haven't had since the early days of Reiser.**

But how about the way he plays first base today? He's unrecognizable from the brilliant second sacker who was asked to produce cold at a strange position if he wanted to be in the Dodger lineup of 1947. What a way for a rookie to come up! And no need to stress that very special pressure on him.

I'd be the last to take something away from the other fine freshmen produced this year. A Scotch born and Staten Island bred Bob Thomson. His fellow graduate from the Pacific Coast League, and teammate, Larry Jansen. Baumholtz of Cincinnati, a rare slugging find in Boston by name of Earl Torgeson. And Johnny Jorgensen, my idea of a fine rookie third baseman.

But none of them have proven of greater value to their team than has Robinson, and when Jackie becomes the one difference between winning a pennant and not, then there, say I, is reason enough for him to be voted the N.L.'s Most Valuable Player. . . .

League's leading base stealer, a proven extra-base knocker, away up there in hits and runs scored . . . there's not much more a guy has to do for the vote, is there?

51b 1947

Jackie Robinson

# 'Rookie of Year' In Spotlight on Eve of Series

9-27-47 Sat.

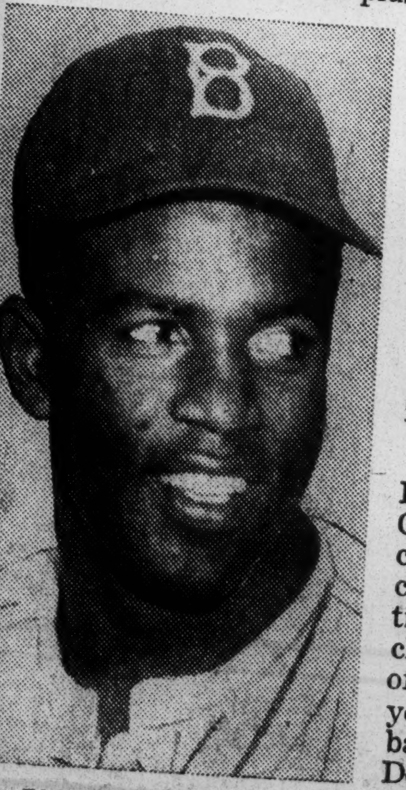
51B

By WENDELL SMITH
(Courier Sports Editor)

NEW YORK—Baseball's Man of the Hour is Jackie Robinson! *Pittsburgh Courier, Pa.*

Mobbed by a pennant-happy crowd of faithful Flatbush followers, the Dodgers' smiling first baseman had to be rescued by a police detachment when he came marching home last week after Brooklyn's victorious Western swing. On the trip, Jackie had smacked out two homers and fielded brilliantly.

The jubilant crowd, composed mostly of whites, cornered Robbie in a telephone booth and besieged him with friendly slaps on the back plus requests for autographs.



JACKIE ROBINSON

Acclaimed by "Time" magazine, honored by "The Sporting News" as the "Rookie of the Year," and hailed as the hero of the Dodgers in a "Jackie Robinson Day" celebration at Ebbets Field Tuesday, Robinson was virtually sitting on top of the baseball world today as Brooklyn looked toward its impending World Series battles with the New York Yankees.

Recommended to Branch Rickey by The Pittsburgh Courier in 1945, Robinson came through with flying colors to win the International League's batting championship as a member of the Montreal Royals last year. This season, as first baseman for the Brooklyn Dodgers, he has proved to be a big league player in every sense of the word.

In ceremonies before the Dodgers-Giants game, Jackie was to receive an automobile, a wrist watch and many other gifts from Brooklyn's faithful flock of fans.

Co-Chairman Jack Semel stated that the gifts will add up "to as much or more than any other player has received on a similar occasion."

Bill (Bojangles) Robinson served as co-chairman of the committee, which worked in conjunction with a New York weekly in arranging the ceremonies.

Martin Levine, co-producer of the "Roosevelt Story" movie, congratulated the committee on arranging the "day."

"Your proposed 'Jackie Robinson Day,'" he wrote, "Goes right down the line towards the goal of true Americanism—making democracy live." *Pittsburgh Courier*

Mr. Levine said that he planned to donate one day's receipts of running the picture of the late President Roosevelt to the Dodger first baseman's list of gifts.

Another tribute to the Brooklyn Dodgers, Jackie and the New York Yankees will be paid by the citizens of New York at Central Park Friday. The honoring of the two teams on that occasion was advocated by a New York daily newspaper. A crowd of nearly a million is expected to attend.

Meanwhile managers and players all over the circuit are loud in their praises of the quiet-spoken Dodger first sacker.

His teammate, Dixie Walker, formerly of Birmingham, Ala., summed it up recently when he declared:

**"No other ball player on this club, with the possible exception of Bruce Edwards, has done more to put the Dodgers up in the race than Robinson. He is everything that Branch Rickey said he was when he came up from Montreal."**

Earlier in the season many players and writers who saw Jackie handle himself clumsily around the first base sack, admitted that they thought he would never do. 9-27-47

One Cincinnati scribe went so far as to write that were it not for the fact that Jackie were colored, he would have been benched after a first month such as he experienced.

Today that writer declares, among others in the circuit, that Robinson has mastered the initial sack and today ranks with the better fielding first basemen in the game.

# No Extra Money for Players'—Chandler

*Pittsburgh Courier, Pa.*

## Chandler Reminds Owners That Rules Prohibit Gifts to Players at End of Season, Which Means "Rookie of the Year" Will Not Receive Extra Money for His Great Playing.

51B

By WENDELL SMITH
(Sports Editor)

**EN ROUTE TO NEW YORK—Although he is the biggest drawing card in the major leagues and also the "Rookie of the Year," Jackie Robinson will not receive a bonus or extra award for his brilliant playing this year!**

**One of the biggest questions on the fans' lips this season has been: "How much bonus money will Branch Rickey give Robinson when the season ends?"**

Everyone agrees that Robinson deserves some extra dough for his efforts. He has hit over .300 most of the year. He leads the league in stolen bases. He is second to Johnny Mize in runs-scored. He is fourth in the number of hits, led only by Harry Walker of the Phillies; Tommy Holmes of Boston, and Frankie Gustine of Pittsburgh.

**HIT .462 AGAINST CARDS**

In the crucial series with St. Louis two weeks ago he was Brooklyn's outstanding player. On the attack, Jackie hit a .462 clip against the Cardinals. He went to the plate thirteen times, banged out six hits, including a homer and a double. He also stole his twenty-sixth base. He made the field gem of the series when he caught a foul fly hit by Second Baseman Nippy Jones while falling into the dugout.

In Brooklyn's drive for the pennant since the season started in April, Robinson has been the busiest Dodger of them all. He has only missed two games this year. Branch Rickey has admitted that his daring on the bases has been one of the main reasons Brooklyn won the pennant. 9-27-47

**A GREAT RECORD**

Now there is a record no other rookie — and few veterans — can match in the majors. He accomplished all of these things under more pressure and adverse conditions any player has coped with in the history of sports.

But—for all that—Jackie Robinson will not realize any extra money for his efforts. The only money above his $5,000 salary coming is that he will receive from the World Series. Each player on the winning team gets $5,000 and on the losing team $4,000.

**CHANDLER CRACKS DOWN**

The reason he will not receive a bonus is because last year Commissioner Chandler ruled against such gifts to players. Although the rule has been in effect for a number of years, it was relaxed in 1946, when Owner Thomas Yawkey of the Red Sox paid cash bonuses to his American League champions and Branch Rickey, Dodgers' boss, gave all of his players new automobiles, even though they failed to win the flag. Sat.

Last week Chandler notified the club owners that no bonuses or prizes may be given the Yankees or Dodgers for winning the pennant this year.

When Chandler cracked down, he not only hit Robinson right on top of his curly head, but all the players on the Dodgers and Yankees. None of them will get any extra money, or such lavish gifts as automobiles.

The rule, quoted by Commissioner Chandler, reads:

**"Neither of the contesting clubs shall give nor pay a bonus or prize to any or all of its players before or aft r the completion of the series . . . and a player released or transferred by a club and thereafter signed by another club in the same league shall not participate in the proceeds of such series as a present or reward frm former teammates, the releasing club or any of its officials."**

All of which means that Jack (the Rabbit) Robinson will get nothing extra in his pocketbook for the great first year he has had in the big leagues.

## A MAJOR VICTORY

51B *Defender*

While we were thrilled by the announcement last week that Jackie Robinson won the "Rookie of the Year" award, we considered it more important that he has finally won the hearts of his teammates. It was no secret that several of the Dodgers along with many other major leaguers looked upon Mr. Rickey's "experiment" with serious misgivings if not alarm.

Jackie, however, not only performed his diamond duties superbly, he made

them like it. The big thaw of some of his frigid colleagues came during the playoff series with the St. Louis Cardinals who last year upset the Brooklyn applecart. In the crucial games Jackie came through with a decisive and sustained attack which made the difference between victory and defeat.

Whatever resentment some of the Dodgers may have harbored in their hearts was dissipated in St. Louis.

The "Bums" are chasing the world championship title and the gold that goes with it and fleet-footed Jackie is running shoulder to shoulder with the best of them. The first baseman has discovered that the roots of prejudice are deep indeed but if you keep digging at them, you may finally dig some of them up.

*Sat. 9-27-47* *Chicago, Ill.*

# Dustin' off the NEWS

By LUCIUS C. HARPER

## WHAT MR. RICKEY FOUND OUT WHEN HE WENT SCOUTING

THE NAME OF Jackie Robinson is on every tongue. He has created a new interest in the great American pastime, baseball. He is, without doubt, the greatest gate attraction since the days of Babe Ruth. It has been highly profitable for the clubs in the National League to have his presence on their diamonds. Clubs that were in the cellar and would have suffered financially found their attendance records hoisted into profitable brackets through the flocking to parks by curious whites and thousands of hero-worshipping colored people who heretofore had just read about the games and were satisfied at that.

Lucius Harper

Like Joe Louis re-created respect for pugilism and placed that sport on a higher level by his prowess and deportment in and out of the ring, so has Jackie Robinson's presence on a big league team elevated baseball to a new degree of interest in the eyes of the public by his sterling performances and conduct off and on the diamonds. He has been truly "a servant worthy of his hire."

There is a great lesson in the hiring of Jackie Robinson by Branch Rickey. Long convinced that baseball, like any other national sport, should be open to all athletes regardless of color, Mr. Rickey set out in search of ball players, and not just white ball players. He went about it in a businesslike manner. He spent three years and over $20,000 studying the history of Negro baseball. He organized a scouting crew to watch every angle of the game under colored management and direction; their places of hangout; their associates. He studied the organization of the clubs; who owned them and how they were financed; the characters of the men controlling the business, and through what sources of revenue they became "big time" promoters. He did all this quietly and painstakingly, then he was ready to act without fear or favor.

WHAT HE FOUND, those in on the "know," say would astound you. He found much looseness and disorganization. He found, in some instances, that so-called star players went from the tavern directly to the ball diamond. He found much lack of respect among the players for the coaches and managers, and in some cases this went for the owners as well. In some towns it was discovered that umpires were favoring the hometown clubs on close plays, and this was accomplished by the coercion of club owners. It was revealed that the private business interests of some of the club owners was quite questionable; they were men long identified with various rackets, and could not stand the strict scrutiny of a Judge Landis, who cleaned the gamblers out of baseball.

In many instances it was found that the "clown" side of ball playing was over-emphasized in Negro baseball and that most of the teams were inclined to play "muscle ball" rather than "percentage ball" which characterizes the efforts of big league players. In fact, he found that Negro baseball, as controlled, managed and operated needed a good house-cleaning before he could consider it as proving ground for material. So he went out to select his own Negro player, without recommendation from the so-called "leading Negroes," and picked Jackie Robinson.

* * *

IT WAS THE first time in this writer's estimation that the "right Negro" was picked for the "right place" to somewhat represent the Negro race at the "right time." In politics and many other walks of public life where we have been called upon to recommend a Negro for a position of prominence; where he could render inestimable service to his race, we have invariably picked the wrong type of Negro. Mr. Rickey, having engaged in three years of study of our methods of recommending one of us, and also having spent some $20,000 for his research, decided he could do a much better job alone . . . and he picked Jackie Robinson. How do you like his selection without our help?

# Jackie Robinson Given Auto, Wrist Watch, Money

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—Jackie Robinson waited all year to have "his day." A crowd of 26,123, mostly Robinson's admirers turned out at Ebbett's Field, home of the National League champions, to celebrate "Robinson Day." Brooklyn had won the pennant Monday night when the Dodgers were idle and the Chicago Cubs defeated St. Louis Cardinals in a night game.

**Before the Brooklyn team faced the New York Giants, Robinson received:**

**A new 1947 Cadillac sedan.**

**A television set so heavy it took four men to carry it.**

**A check for $168 from friends in Hartford, Conn.**

**Some radio sets, including a portable.**

**A set of silverware.**

**A set of cutlery.**

**An electric broiler.**

**A gold pen and pencil set.**

**An interracial goodwill placque from the Amsterdam News of New York City.**

**A $500 wristwatch, bought at Tiffany's, New York.**

* * *

**AMONG THE SPEAKERS** were Dr. Clayton B. Powell, publisher of the Amsterdam News and member of the New York State Athletic Commission; John A. Cashmore, president of the Brooklyn Borough, and Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, internationally known stage and screen actor and the world's greatest tap dancer.

Bojangles made the presentation of the watch. He "brought down the house" when he said, over the public address system: "I am 69 years old but I never thought I'd live to see the day when I'd stand face to face with Ty Cobb in technicolor."

Jackie's response was brief. He thanked the donors and also "the members of the Brooklyn team who were so cooperative in helping me to improve my game."

* * *

**THEN BROOKLYN** snatched a 2-1 lead over the Giants with Lefty Joe Hatten doing the flinging. It was a pre-season workout and Manager Burt Shotten signaled for Dan Bankhead, the Negro righthander secured from the Memphis Red Sox of the Negro American League, to pitch.

Bankhead turned in his most creditable major league performance. He allowed three hits in the four innings and blanked the Giants in the sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth. He walked one man. He struck out two, including the great Johnny Mize, the Giants' home run king. He took one putout, was at the bat once officially and went hitless. The other time he was up, he was hit by Shelton Jones, Giant's pitcher.

# Rachel Robinson plans "outside" career; impressed New Yorkers with simplicity

Jackie Robinson's attractive, but 'commonsensical' wife, the former Rachel Isum, of Los Angeles, came in for her share of publicity during the exciting days of the World Series, in which her famous husband played as the first Negro in the history of baseball's annual grand finale.

Mrs. Robinson was photographed, interviewed, and she even wrote a couple of articles, herself, for a New York paper in which she managed quite well to convey the excitement her position carried.

Mainly, however, Rachel Robinson seemed to have impressed all who have met her with her poise, simplicity, independence, and with the fact that although she and her husband, and their sturdy 10-months-old son, are "riding high", nevertheless, her feet are on the ground.

WANTS "OUTSIDE INTEREST"

Being Mrs. Jackie Robinson is thrilling business; motherhood is equally so, but Rachel won't let matters stand there. She feels the need of an outside interest", something to help her retain her individuality. Already a registered nurse, she realizes a nursing career would be too rigorous, what with her duties to her husband and son, and has taken up interior decorating. With characteristic thoroughness, she has completed during her stay in New York, a course at the New York School of Interior Decorating. As she says:

"While I like being a housewife and mother, I feel I need an outside interest . . . I couldn't leave Jackie Jr. to follow my original profession . . . but I might be able to do something with decorating without having to leave him."

**Rachel, the daughter of Mrs. Zellee Isum, is a native of Pasadena, Jackie's hometown, but she wasn't his childhood sweetheart. During his Pasadena junior college days, he was one of a number of young swains who danced attendance on pretty Bessie Renfro, who had a Southern California-wide reputation as "the prettiest girl in Pasadena".**

Friends of Jackie knew and often commented on the high standards he set for girls. He didn't like them to drink, smoke or swear. Rachel, with whom Jackie became acquainted on the campus of UCLA, fitted in exactly with his idea of what a girl, a future wife and mother, should be. They went together throughout most of their college days.

Rachel transferred to the University of California at Berkeley. After she received her degree, she worked and saved enough money to spend a year in New York where she was on the nursing staff of the New York Hospital for Joint Diseases.

Nurse training has come in handy for the 25-year-old wife and mother, enabling her to give expert care to her son. She describes him as a good-natured baby, and said that at Ebbets Field, where she sat in the section reserved for the wives of the players and wore orchids presented them by the management, Jackie Jr. was passed "from box to box".

# Jackie Fan, a Southerner, Is First in Bleacher Line

The first fan in line for the 3,000 one dollar bleacher seats yesterday didn't come from Brooklyn. He was E. C. Park, an accountant from Kingsport, Tennessee, and a hot Dodger-fan. In his middle 40's, Park, who is white, once played ball himself and told reporters, "I came up just to catch one game. I believe in the Dodgers and Jackie Robinson."

It was Park's first trip North and took a good bite out of his savings. He said he was surprised and gratified by the "friendly, pleasant people of Brooklyn. . . . I never saw such a place," he enthused. But he is going back to Kingsport, there to tell the folks about the most exciting game in all World Series history.

"Robinson," he continued, "is admired by a lot more people down south than you might think."

Jackie Robinson

## Robinson Denies Retirement Talk . . .

Courier

In the future it seems that Jackie Robinson will have to preface interviews with newspapermen with such stop and go expressions as "quote" and "unquote." Last week, in Washington, he submitted to an ordinary interview and gave ordinary answers to equally ordinary questions.

But the next day the newspapers came out with stories that were far from ordinary. Some of the things they quoted Robinson as saying actually put him on the spot. In order to get the record straight, Jackie denied that he was dissatisfied with his financial deal at Brooklyn, and that he intended to quit playing in three years.

**His denials were published in the "Sporting News," under the by-line of Paul Gould, a Brooklyn writer. Just in case you haven't seen the significant story, we're plunking it in here:** Pittsburgh, Pa.

"Jackie Robinson has taken strong exception to press reports from Washington, where he was appearing at the Howard Theatre, quoting him on such matters as how long he intended to play pro ball, how much he received as salary and why he was making the tour. Courier

**"The press evidently put my answers down to read as they wanted them to read," he told the writer via long distance. "I never mentioned how much I received as salary and they drew the wrong conclusions when they attributed my tour to the amount I was paid this year.'**

"Then he added significantly: 'I did not tell the reporters I am making this tour because I did not get a bonus. In the first place, Mr. Rickey was not obligated to give me a bonus and I am sorry the article made it appear as if I were kicking. I have no complaints about my treatment, and the only reason for this tour is financial.

**"If I had received a bonus I would have made this tour anyway.** Pittsburgh, Pa.

"Jackie added that while he has said he would remain in baseball for about three more years, he had quickly changed his guess to 'a few years,' but the reporters ignored his correction. Sat. 11-8-47

**"I'm no longer a young man," the 28-year-old Brooklyn Dodger Negro first baseman was quoted as saying in Washington, 'and after a few more years, I'll definitely retire and take up a job I'd like to be doing now—working with underprivileged kids.'**

"He had nothing but praise for his fellow players and their treatment of him, and singled out Dixie Walker, Brooklyn's Alabama-born outfielder, as 'the fellow who was kindest to me and who helped me most,' in the Washington interview.

**"Of Rickey, Jackie told the Washington writers:**

**" 'He coached me on conduct and baseball all season and I wouldn't trade anything for his advice. He has great foresight and I'm deeply indebted to him.'**

**" 'Everybody in the league was swell to me and just treated me like another ball player,' he declared. 'That's all I wanted and that's what I got.' "**

# Mental Attitudes

Journal & Guide

## Jackie Robinson Story Should Clear The Atmosphere

**By ED SULLIVAN In The New York Daily News**

JACKIE ROBINSON **will be playing in the World Series** because he knocked Ignorance out of the box, tagged out Prejudice and trapped the pop-fly Custom . . . To stage professionals, who for years have worked with Bill Robinson, Florence Mills, Bert Williams, Canada Lee, Lena Horne, Noble Sissle, Cab Calloway or Duke Ellington, the only extraordinary feature of the Jackie Robinson story is that his presence in a big league lineup should be considered extraordinary.

**Yet the Jackie Robinson triumph IS** extraordinary, because professional baseball's Branch Rickey can take a star-spangled bow on demolishing an issue that reduced even our great universities to moral cowardice . . . As long ago as 1929, I blasted New York University for benching Negro player Dave Myers in the grid game at New York City against University of Georgia, pointing out that the game's receipts weren't worth the humiliation visited upon him. Sat. 9-27-47

**The column took that stand in 1929,** when Jackie Robinson was exactly 10 years old! So let no crackpot assail me as "a professional bleed heart." Some of us were devoted to tolerance a long way back!

**The human mind and the attitudes it creates are astonishing things,** as you kids will learn in the process of living . . . The Little Church Around the Corner, soon to observe its centennial, won American fame because the rector permited an actor to be buried from there! Other rectors of other churches had refused to preach a funeral service for the dead actor — imagine that type of prejudice only 50 years ago ! !

**When Abraham Lincoln was assassinated,** to some famous Americans the criminal feature of the tragedy was not his death, but his attendance at a theatre . . . So stage people know something about hatred and prejudice.

**When Alfred E. Smith ran for President,** otherwise reasonable people were led to believe that this was all part of a gigantic plot, stemming from Rome and Vatican City. It's laughable, now to these same people but, at the time, the hatemongers sold them a bill of goods. Norfolk, Va.

**From Cincinnati on Tuesday, Dick Young, News Brooklyn Dodger** correspondent and a good one, told how the early resentment of some players to Jackie Robinson has disappeared. Young quotes one Dodger "who was one of the most antagonistic and outspoken members of the anti-Robinson movement this past Spring. Said the former agitator, simply: "Robinson's a good guy!"

**So once again the Ignorance-to-Prejudice-to-Custom triple play** has been broken up. The southern players who hated Robinson without even knowing him found, when they got to **know him, that he was a human being.** They had been told, from boyhood, that the Negro lacked courage under pressure. Robinson, in the crucial six games in the West, belted the ball at a .448 clip and ran rival clubs daffy when he was on the basepaths.

**The straitjacket of custom** imprisons the human mind because of environment. You get to believe that 13 is an unlucky number, that you must spill salt over your right shoulder, that walking under a ladder is freighted with evil . . . Subscribing to all of these attitudes, we still laugh at the medicine doctors of old Indian tribes, not realizing that we're not more than the length of a black cat removed from their superstitious rites.

**The straitjacket then imprisons you** in more evil mental attitudes, and then you start hating other religions and other races, without even coming into contact with them . . . When a Frank Sinatra speaks out for tolerance, some people start hating him because he is saying things that are alien to their way of thinking . . . To discredit him, they ransack his record and start smearing him. Even those who speak out for him are smeared.

**Yes sir, the human mind is a curious thing** . . . The French tell of the hat-maker who was exercised over the guilotine because it cut the heads off possible customers . . . Too many of us are influenced by equivalent considerations, affected only by what affects us . . . The Jackie Robinson story should clear the atmosphere.

# Between The Lines

Daily World

**BY DEAN GORDON B. HANCOCK (FOR ANP)**

Atlanta Ga

## Branch Rickey And Spingarn Medal

The pride of the American Negro which suffers such pittiless rebuff through its impact with every day interracial affairs, has been considerably bolstered in the last few years by the rise and reign of Joe Louis, and more recently the rise of Jackie Robinson. The aspiration of Negroes everywhere has undergone a substantial resurgence because these two young Negroes in particular have elicited such universal commendation. Sun. 10-5-47

The athletic prowess of Joe and Jackie has been singularly balanced by a steadiness of character which has left nothing to be desired. It is hard to imagine two young Negroes who would have better carried such tremendous honors with such becoming grace. When Jackie appeared on the American athletic scene, the way before him had been prepared by Joe Louis. The standard had been set, and that he lived up to his high responsibility with such sterling display of athletic prowess and common sense, will crown Jackie Robinson not alone as "rookie of the year" but as a champion of the Negroes to equality in this country.

Or course my mind runs back to Branch Rickey, the kingpin in the whole affair. Baseball magnates before Rickey believed that Negroes could play big league baseball. In fact they knew it but they belonged to that stripe of mortals afflicted with the "Cant's Disease." They just said it could not be done and thus did not try it. But royal Branch Rickey decided to do something about it. He not only decided that it could be done but decided to do, and did!

**EYE ON TURNSTILES**

We are going to grant that Branch Rickey had an eye on the turnstiles; but we must admit also that these same turnstiles have been in service these many years. But even the turnstiles and their possibilities have not been sufficient to induce the owners of the big leagues to admit Negroes. But when Branch Rickey came upon the scene things changed suddenly and for the better. Not only has the pride and admiration of the Negroes and nation been stimulated by the performance of the first Negro to break into major league baseball, but the cause of race relations, has been constructively served. Daily World

There is no reason in the United States within the century who has wielded such wsolesome influence in so short a time as Jackie Robinson and had it not been for the moral daring of Branch Rickey, this modern miracle could never have happened. Why don't the "In-The-Know" magnates of these various medals get busy and do something about honoring Branch Rickey? If moral stamina and nobility of character are requisite considerations in the awarding of the Spingarn medal, this writer would like to

know just why Branch Rickey is not eligible?

We are nominating Branch Rickey for the Spingarn medal. If a man who has done what he has done for the cause of human brotherhood and better race relations is not eligible for this honor, then the medal itself becomes a farce. Branch Rickey for the Spingarn Medal!

## TIME ARTICLE DECLARES:

# St. Louis Incident Proves Jackie Has Finally Won Right to Squawk

9-27-47

A vivid account of the battle waged by Jackie Robinson to prove his qualifications as a major league baseball player is published in a feature story in the current issue of Time, the front page of which is adorned by a picture of the star Brooklyn firstbaseman.

The article begins with the evaluation of the rhubarb at St. Louis on the Dodgers' recent swing of the West. The spiking of Jackie by Cardinal Catcher Joe Garagiola in the early part of the opening of the three-game series. Earlier it tells of the long, hard fight Robbie had made to hold his temper in clashes with other players.

The piece relates:

"Next inning at the plate, there was a face-to-face exchange of hot words between Robinson and Garagiola—the kind of rough passage that fans appreciatively call a "rhubarb." Umpire "Beans" Reardon hastily stepped between the two and broke it up.

"That was the end of it; no fisticuffs on the field, no rioting in the stands. But it was a sign, and an important one, that Jackie had established himself as a big leaguer. He had earned what comes free to every player: the right to squawk."

*Consulted Joe Louis*

When Robinson was elevated to the Dodgers from the Montreal Club, the story asserts, he "had no desire to be a martyr for his race; he was just a fellow anxious to make a living as a ballplayer. Though he barely knew Joe Louis, he sought him out for advice. He got an equal earful which boiled down to three words: 'Don't get cocky.'"

Proof of the progress he has made since that time is couched in the revelation that "in a locker room gab-fest a few weeks ago, the Dodgers agreed among themselves that Jackie Robinson was the team's third most valuable player — behind Edwards and Reese."

*Jackie the Hitter*

Analyzing his offensive play, the article says:

"A right handed hitter, Jackie has a habit of *swinging too soon* and his motion is *half chop, half lunge*. As a result, he fouls off a lot of balls to the left, But his batting average at week's end was a solid [illegible]. The wise guys who judge a hitter by his Runs Batted In totals are apt to take too fast a look at Jackie's R.B.I. and grumble that Jackie can't hit in a tight spot. But as the club's No. hitter in the lineup, Jackie's job is either to push along the lead-off man by a sacrifice or to get on base himself. Jackie's *R.B.I. total (44)* is higher than most No. 2 hitters—including Philadelphia's Harry Walker, who is baseball's current batting king with an average of .362.

"Actually, Jackie at bat is most dangerous when the odds are against him. When the count gets two strikes, as he explains it: 'Then I begin to crowd the plate a little.' Says Branch Rickey: 'He is the best batter in the game with two strikes on him.' Pitchers capitalize on his hasty swing by feeding him slow stuff.' "I just can't hit those nuthin' pitches," Jackie complains. Because he is the best bunter in the game, the Dodgers "cut him loose" at the plate (*i.e.*, let him decide for himself whether to take, hit or bunt). He and Pete Reiser are the only Dodgers good enough to be 'cut loose' on the bases, allowed to steal without waiting for a signal.

*How He Behaves*

Another excerpt from the piece deals with Robbie's habits. It says:

"Jackie's idea of a fine way to spend a night off is to go to bed early. He averages ten hours' sleep. He likes neither music nor dancing. 'You know,' he says, 'colored people do not like music and dancing any better than white people . . . the white people just think they do.' At home, he carefully takes his vitamin pills, spends a lot of time baby-sitting with his nine-month-old son, and according to his wife (whom he met at U.C.L.A.), always has his face buried in a paper. Like most ballplayers, he soaks up every word in every newspaper in town that concerns him and his team. His reader reaction: 'Some reporters write nice things about me and mean them, and others write nice things and don't mean them. I can always tell.'"

9-27-47

# Jackie's on P. A.'s just for the jack, says he's short

Sat. 11-8-47

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Brooklyn Dodger firstbaseman Jackie Robinson, making his second stand as a stage trouper here at the Howard theater last week in a question and answer routine, got his biggest audience reaction when he offhandedly remarked that he was only going to put in three years with the majors and then would switch his talents over to helping underprivileged kids.

**A little prematurely, it seemed, but Robinson, now 28, said he no longer felt young and that when he finished the three-year hitch with Brooykln he would go back to the social work he was doing in Los Angeles directly he had finished UCLA. A short time after finishing his four allstar years with the Uclans, however, Robinson was taken off his job by the draft. And after putting in three years with the Army, earning a lieutenancy, and then his discharge, Robinson joined the Kansas City Monarch from whom Branch Rickey purchased him for the Dodgers and packed him off to Montreal for a year in the minors with the Royals.**

Robinson explained to his audience that he was ready to quit pro ball when Rickey hired him. He was fed up with the soul-taxing back-breaking hardships of the Negro American League: all night jumps in rickety busses, catch-as-catch-can sleeping, poor food, and the lack of contracts, etc.

**Robinson said he thought the Negro leagues rated about on a par with the triple A white loops, and pointed out that he only batted .340 against the Negro pitchers, while he hit .349 to lead the International League with Montreal. Comparing the loops, he said that the major difference between them was that the Negroes carried from ragtail & bobtail to topnotchers, while all major league player were grade A.**

Jackie said, as a private opinion, that he thought Dan Bankhead would be sent to Montreal next season for seasoning, to pick up the fine points on pitching as done on bigtime. He considers Larry Doby, of the Cleveland Indians, and Monty Irvin, of Newark, as the most outstanding prospects to follow in his footsteps, although he didn't put it just that way. And he expects Ray Campanella to be brought from Montreal by the Dodgers next year.

Uncomplainingly, "Rookie of the Year" Robinson said he didn't get a raise in pay during the season, even though he was so named. His salary, he said, was around $5000, the minimum a major league club can pay a player. "That," he said with a smile, "is why I'm making this four-week personal tour (New York, Washington, and Chicago) before flying back to California to make a picture."

# VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS

by Harry Keelan

I was fortunate enough to be in St. Louis at the time of the Dodgers-Cardinals "Little World Series," but I was totally unprepared for the loud outburst of booing which greeted Jackie Robinson whenever he appeared at the plate or in the field at Sportsman's Park—I say, Sportman's Park, that is!

9-27-47

Upon Jackie's first appearance at the plate in the initial game, the St. Louis catcher, a 100% American named Garagiola, insulted him, and Jackie went for him.

But a Dodger teammate got there first with his fists raised, and the umpire almost knocked the Brooklynite down. And this was the start of the series at Sportsman's Park—I say, Sportsman's Park, that is!

**Came Through Anyhow**

But Jackie came through with a homer, with one man aboard, which eventually won a 4—3 decision.

During the second game—the only Brooklyn defeat—the Dodger pitchers were being knocked all over the lot, and finally Bankhead, the other colored Brooklyn rookie, was called to the mound.

He fared no better than the others, but the boos were loud and incessant during his whole stay.

There were also cries about the Dodgers being an all-star colored team. This was in the second game at Sportsman's Park—I say, Sportsman's Park, that is!

But on the field, a long, foul fly went toward the stands about fifty feet back of first base, and Jackie went for it like a comet.

As he neared the rail, with his eyes in the air, one of the Brooklyn pitchers jumped up from the bull pen and braced himself against the rail, so that Jackie might hit him and not the rail.

**Most Spectacular Play**

In the Cardinal eighth inning of the rubber game came the most spectacular play, I have ever seen in baseball! At its beginning the score was 8 to 4.

After the Cardinals got back two runs, making it 8 to 6, there were still two men on base, and the St. Louis home-run hitter, Enos Slaughter came to the bat.

With two strikes on him, he suddenly hit a high foul which went in the direction of the Brooklyn dugout.

In a flash, Robinson was after it. He reached the dugout and leaped high in the air. With split-second timing, a Dodger player from the dugout, tackled him at the knees.

The play ended with Robinson over the roof of the Brooklyn dugout, supporting himself on his elbows, with his colleague holding him up by the knees—and the ball was in his hand!

The fans of Sportsman's Park argued that in that play, interference should have been called by the umpires, because if Robinson had been allowed to fall into the dugout, he would have dropped the ball!

Even now, I can still see that brown body sprawled over the roof of the dugout, motionless for a moment, with the ball—eventual Brooklyn victory—in his hand!

Also the silent crowd too stunned even to boo at Sportman's Park — I say, Sportman's Park, that is!

# Equal Opportunity Wins An Inning

The Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier (51b)

An up-standing, clean-living, bright-minded young athlete who happens to be a Negro broke a sixty-year tradition last week when he signed a contract to play with the Brooklyn Club (the Dodgers) of the National League. Sat. 4-19-47

Not since 1884 when Moses Fleetwood Walker caught for Toledo of the American Association has an acknowledged colored man played on a major league team, so congratulations are in order for young, 28-year-old Jackie Robinson, the brilliant California athlete, who won his spurs with the Montreal team last season; and for Branch Rickey, president of the Dodgers, who has won a big place in the hearts of all liberty-loving Americans by this final act of liberalism which gained national attention when he gave several young Negro players their chance in the minor leagues.

There is the usual talk about the possibility that young Robinson may not be greeted with enthusiasm or treated with courtesy by some of his teammates, but there was similar talk when Robinson was bought by Montreal.

His Montreal teammates proved to be good sports and comrades, and so will his associates on the Dodgers.

There have been a whole lot of changes in the thinking of Americans on the questions of color, creed and national origin in the past decade, and those who are living mentally in 1927 and physically in 1947, are daily finding their predictions about race relations NOT coming true.

For example, what happened to the wave of race riots supposed to take place immediately after World War II?

Well, having duly recorded the winning of another inning for equal opportunity, The Pittsburgh Courier can now pause and take a bow for the part it played in helping to bring about this victory, the culmination of a long and determined effort to interest baseball moguls, editors and writers in the use of colored players in the major leagues. Sat. 4-19-47

We are proud to be able to say that we contributed more than our share to the realization of this goal, but of course we shall not be satisfied until there is not a baseball team or other sporting aggregation in the United States that draws the color line.

# Mixed Schools Urged for U.S.

Courier (16b) Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 12-27-47

## Truman Commission Would Withhold Federal Funds

12-27-47

WASHINGTON

Sharply attacking open and overt methods used to prevent members of minority groups from attaining desired education, the President's Commission on Higher Education in its second report issued on Dec. 20 called for a campaign to eliminate school segregation in 17 States and the District of Columbia.

Declaring that educational opportunities must be guaranteed all in order to strengthen democracy at home, President Truman, in accepting the Commissions report, endorsed the elimination of dual school systems and the establishment of mixed schools all over the country.

Higher education must take its proper place in our national effort "to improve our understanding of our friends and neighbors everywhere in the world," he said further.

At the same time, the commission recommended that Congress provide next year a $350,000,000 Federal grant to assist needy students in completing undergraduate and graduate training.

However, criticizing those colleges and universities which use the "quota system," the group insisted that Federal appropriations be used only in "those institutions where discriminatory practices do not exist."

**Second to Propose Action**

The commission, by its action, became the second White House appointed group to recommend the abolition of segregation in education within a two-month period.

The first was the President's Committee on Civil Rights, which in its report on Oct. 29 made practically the same recommendations after outlining the weaknesses of the present setup.

**Two Groups Affected**

In explaining its insistence on mixed schools of higher education, the commission, which admitted that some progress had been made during this century, said:

"Segregation lessens the quality of education for white persons as well as for colored.

"To maintain two school systems side by side—duplicating even inadequately the buildings, equipment and teaching personnel — means that neither can be of the quality that would be possible if all the available resources were devoted to one system, especially not when the States least able financially to support an adequate educational program for their youth are the very ones that are trying to carry a double load."

**Dissenters Give Old Excuse**

When the first report was issued, four members of the 28-man commission dissented from the stand on the elimination of segregation, stating that they would explain in the second volume.

Declaring that the majority of the commission refused to accept "the facts of history and the realities of the present," they stated:

"We believe that pronouncements such as those of the commission on the question of segregation jeopardize these efforts, impede progress and threaten tragedy to the people of the South, both colored and white."

The majority, however, adamantly refused to change its stand, declaring in both of its reports that the barring or restriction of colored students by most professional schools is especially deplorable.

Citing the results of such educational discrimination, the group pointed out that in 1946 the Howard University Medical School in Washington could accept only 75 of 1,350 aplicants, while the Dental School there could admit only 50 out of 1000.

Under the proposed Federal grant program, needy non-veteran students would be given from $400 to $800. The scholarships would be administered by the States, under supervision of a Federal agency which would guard against discriminatory practices.

# Spot Above Kiner Given Jackie in Nat'l by Writers

~~Defender~~ Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. (51b)

Sat. 11-29-47

NEW YORK—Jackie Robinson, brilliant first baseman of Brooklyn's National League pennant winning Dodgers, and winner of the "Rookie of the Year" recognition, had more honors heaped upon his trim shoulders when he was given fifth place in the Baseball Writers Association's 1947 National League Most Valuable Player balloting.

Bob Elliott, Boston Braves infielder, led the voting with 205; Ewell Blackwell of Cincinnati was second, with 175; Johnny Mize of New York garnered 144 votes for third place, and Bruce Edwards, the hustling Brooklyn catcher, polled 140 for fourth place.

The winner will receive the Kenesaw Mountain Landis Memorial Award. Sat. 11-29-47

Jackie came up with 106 votes, which nosed out Ralph Kiner, the Pirates' homerun hitter, who had 101.

# Robinson Plays Flawless Ball With Brooklyn Dodgers Club

Chicago Defender Chicago, Ill. (51b)

Sat. 4-19-47

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—(Special)—Jackie Robinson, leading batter in the International League last year, was recalled from the Montreal Royals, league champions, by the Brooklyn Dodgers following the exhibition game at Ebbett's field on Thursday afternoon, April 10.

Robinson becomes the first Negro in about 55 years to play in major league baseball.

Thursday, in his farewell game with Montreal, Robinson played first base. He made no hits. He made seven putouts, no assists and no errors as his club whipped Brooklyn, 4 to 3. Sat. 4-19-47

IT WAS DURING the middle of the game that Branch Rickey, president of the Brooklyn club, decided to bring Robinson up from the Class AA Montreal club, which is a farm team of the Dodgers.

Robinson went hitless in his first appearance as a Dodger on Friday when the Brooklyn team played and lost a 14 to 6 exhibition game to the New York Yankees.

Jackie popped up in the first with two out and two runs across. In the third, he flied out to left, sending a run in after the catch. In the fifth, he reached first on a fielder's choice, one run scoring. Up the second time in that frame he flied out to center, another run scoring. He was up again in the seventh and was safe on Spud Chandler's error when Jackie laid down an intended infield sacrifice.

Robinson was credited with having batted in three runs. He handled 15 chances without an error at first base. Sat. 4-19-47

ON SATURDAY, the Yankees defeated Brooklyn, 8 to 1. Robinson again played first and batted sixth. He again went hitless, this time against the offerings of Allie Reynolds and Shea. He connected with a single to left in the last of the fifth to score Pete Reiser from second with Brooklyn's only run. Jackie fielded flawlessly, taking 11 putouts without a bobble.

Yankee rallies defeated the Dodgers in the ninth inning of Sunday's game, 10 to 9. The American leaguers overcame a three-run deficit by scoring four runs in their half of the final frame. In this game, Jackie batted in two runs, figured in two double plays, and accepted 10 chances without an error.

Acting Coach Clyde Sukeforth moved Robinson into number two batting slot and Jackie came through with a single, his second hit in two days against Yankee hurling. He walked with the bases loaded forcing in a run.

# Jackie's fans embarrassed for him by sad sack New York stage appearance

Tribune Los Angeles Calif.

Sat. 11-1-47

(51b)

By DOLORES CALVIN

NEW YORK — (CNS) — If Jackie Robinson wasn't embarrassed by the gaudy and dragged out buildup which preceded his stage appearance here last week, we certainly were for him. We believe the Apollo theatre hit a new low, using Jackie as bait to draw in an SRO audience without any other worthwhile acts. As a result, the show was a financial flop, for once word got around that it was a lousy deal, no amount of advertising could save it.

We gave the show half a chance by only walking halfway in. We were trying to see Jackie and save ourselves from the ancient comedy of Butterbeans and Susie and several no-name acts. But we should have stayed out longer. There was a much-too-fat Tiny Bradshaw, his hair dyed blond, shaking and falling all over the stage while a big fat girl in a none too clean dress sang dirty blues.

**Southern California's own Jackie Robinson will make a personal appearance at the Million Dollar theatre here Nov. 18. The management of the Million Dollar says the local show will in no way repeat the mistakes of the New York house. Robinson will have the help of Gerald Wilson's band at the Million Dollar. There are reports that he will also make a movie after his theatre engagement.**

Next the band played, "Take Me Out to the Ball Game", and our spirits rose in expectation of seeing Jackie. Instead, a comedian in a Dodger suit ambled out and began babbling meaninglessly about being a friend of Branch Rickey's and a championship pitcher. The audience didn't want much of this and soon it began clamoring for Jackie.

Sat. 11-1-47

When he did come out, he looked disgusted and ashamed, also out of place and out of character, but nevertheless handsome and manly in a brown pin-striped suit. Van Johnson has nothing on Jackie. His six feet of rugged charm had every female patron swooning.

T. Tribune

But Jackie didn't have a friend in that script. The dialogue was nothing but trite questions and answers, stuff fans had read many times in newspapers. His best lines were the last ones when he told his dream of helping underprivileged children because he had been one himself. His words, touchingly addressed to parents, drew his audience closer to him.

Los Angeles Calif.

The master of ceremonies kept saying over and over again, "Jackie, the hero of the World Series", and Jackie would correct him with, "Remember, the Dodgers lost" and "I can't see why you call me a hero. We were all in there pitching". No sooner would he finish a sentence than the m.c. would rouse the audience to applause, as if he were afraid Jackie wouldn't get a big hand. It was all so artificial and unworthy of Jackie, who set out to show America that the Negro could contribute an intelligent and capable ball player to the game, and did.

We're not saying Jackie shouldn't have made the tour. Too many folks wanted to see him. But there's much room for improvement. The script, as it stands now, should be burned and the writer shot at sunrise. Jackie needs material on the order of "We, the People", telling incidents in his own life which haven't been spoiled by repetition. Surely there is much which hasn't been told already.

## RIC ROBERTS . . . Bias Kept Record Down

WASHINGTON—They have played thirty-four World Series games in Yankee Stadium, since 1921, and in no instance over the twenty-six-year stretch has the House-that-Ruth-built ever been a complete sell-out for any series game. The lure of Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Tony Lazeri, Herb Pennock, Joe DiMaggio, Red Rolfe, Bob Meusel, Earle Combs, Bill Dickey, Red Ruffing, Wally Pipp, Vernon Gomez and an invincible galaxy of other stars—all, in their best years, part of the traditional Bronx wreckers—failed to jam the stands for the blue ribbon event. Defender Chicago Ill

Only the scuttling of jim crow, that old winged scavenger that prevents America from realizing her full stature, seems likely to allow the 1947 installment to excel the record 69,384, who saw the fourth game of the 1942 Cardinals-Yankees showdown. With Jackie Robinson in there, 13,000,000 colored Americans, excluded in every year since the Series began, have a stake in the outcome. A crowd of 76,000 (absolute Yankee Stadium capacity), for any game, will only prove that America reaches her peak, in any walk, only when the hopes, the interest and zeal of All Americans are concerned, without regard to race, creed, or color. 9-27-47

## The Series Is Over

Birmingham News

Ring Lardner used to write about what he called the World "Serious." It has always been that to players, managers and owners who have participated. It has sometimes been that to the fans whose enthusiasm has made it what it is. But this year it has seemed in particular to have been a serious business to pretty much the whole of the baseball world.

A week before the series began there was a dearth of popular interest. Nobody seemed to care much. There was a general lassitude about the whole thing, with an occasional comment from the faithful who hoped the Dodgers would win, but expected they wouldn't. As the first two games were played, the public's interest (at least away from New York and its vicinity) dropped noticeably. "The Yanks in four games," predicted a good many of the baseball-wise. Some fans shook their heads and said it was too bad, but was what anybody could have expected. Wed. 10-8-47

* * *

Then suddenly the world woke up to the fact that there was a contest after all. Dem Bums began to win games. They won two in succession, and the second of those wins was by such a display of last-minute pyrotechnics that the faithful were tremendously heartened. No Frank Merriwell ever did more for his side than Cookie Lavagetto did with a two-base bingle, breaking up a no-hit performance and winning the game.

But the Yankees, who played bang-up ball most of the time, were always a jump ahead. They were like the pitcher who always got two strikes on his batter before he threw any wide ones. So the Yanks forged ahead again, three games to two. Then the Brooks pulled alongside once more. And in the final game the Yankees pulled out all the stops, turned on all the power. New York simply outplayed Brooklyn, and the better team won. Ala.

It seemed, down here 1,000 miles away, that Brooklyn was the favorite all through. Probably that is because the South loves the underdog and roots with him through all his hardships. But it was also because there were connections between Birmingham and Brooklyn. Dixie Walker is one of ours, and so is Bobby Bragan. Hugh Casey used to pitch for our Barons a long time ago and many Birmingham fans remember him. And, too, many of Birmingham's people have seen Dan Bankhead pitch for the Black Barons; they wished him well.

10-8-47 * * *

There are some other reasons, too, why this series was really serious. None has ever previously been played before such large crowds. There will be more money to split among the players than history has ever recorded. That's serious business. And, despite the notoriety which hung over the team because of Lippy Durocher's antics, most of the people who watched Brooklyn's progress to the pennant were glad that it was won under the quiet leadership of graying Burt Shotton, who didn't have to make himself obnoxious at every turn to win respect as well as ball games.

There is one last matter for comment. The rookie of the year played first base in almost every game the whole season. Jackie Robinson has not achieved a single thing to which he was not entitled by performance. There was neither insurmountable opposition to him nor a softness because he was a decent representative of his race trying to make good. He had to be good to stick.

## Singles Reese Home In Third To Tie-Up Game

Thu. 10-2-47

By MARION E. JACKSON

NEW YORK CITY— (SNS)— The big bats of the New York Yankees became alive here in Yankee Stadium to submerge the Brooklyn Dodgers 10-3 in the second game of the 1947 World Series.

The Bronx Bombers capitalized on a succession of Dodger miscues and lapses in field to chalk up their second victory in a row in baseballs biggest attraction. Daily World

Allie Reynolds started for the Yankees and went all the way for the victors and matched against him for the Dodgers was little Vic Lombardi who succumbed to a flurry of Yankee three base baggers to start what was eventually to turn into a rout of the game little hurler. Atlanta Ga.

Jackie Robinson continued his sterling performance at first base lashing out during the times he was at bat a single and a double. Yet the apathetic support following him at the bat made a comedy of errors not only of his efforts but the game.

Robinson failed to steal. Reynolds struck him out his first appearance at the bat and in the third time the sepia flash was up he flied to centerfield.

Yesterday's loss by the Dodgers means that from now on, the Bums must wage an uphill fight until the climax. O loss today at Ebbetts field where the scene shifts would mean almost a certainity that the series will end here Friday.

After Lombardi was shelled from the mound by a flurry of Yankee hits, Hal Gregg came in to do the pitching chores but failed to halt the Yankee surge. He was followed by Hank Behrman who gave up to Max Minor who carried through until the end.

Dixie Walker homered for the Dodgers and Tommy Hendrix got in a big blow for the Yankees.

**Play Ball** Defender

JACKIE ROBINSON, it is generally agreed, has not only proved to be a big league player but one of the best players in the game. We are pleased that we shall see this week for the first time a Negro in the World Series. That dark face on the television screens is going to look kinda nice. Sat.

There are some interesting things connected with Jackie's getting into the big leagues and being followed by other colored players. Some of them have been glossed over and maybe next week we better have a look see.

## Jackie Robinson Is Made

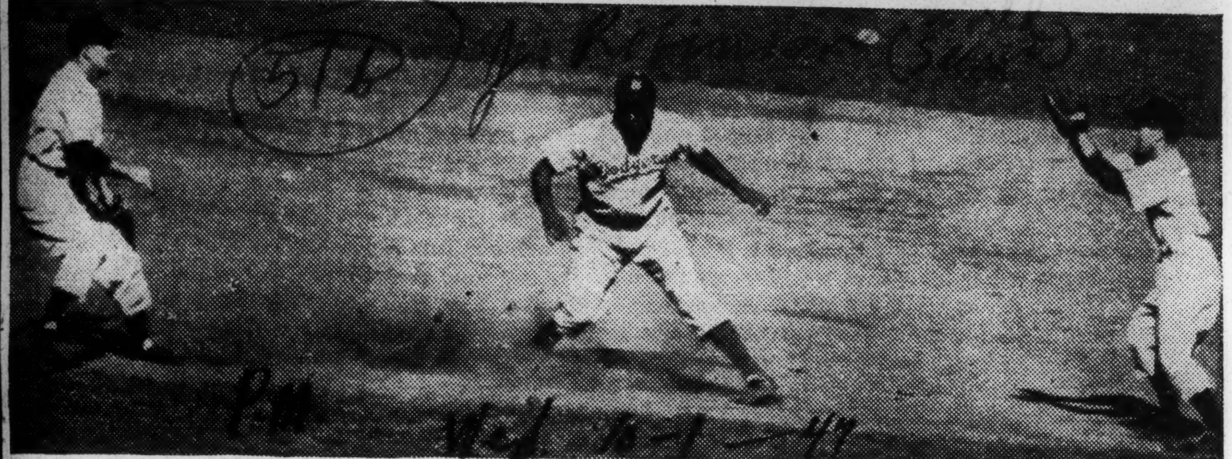
Informer, Huston, Texas. 10-11-47

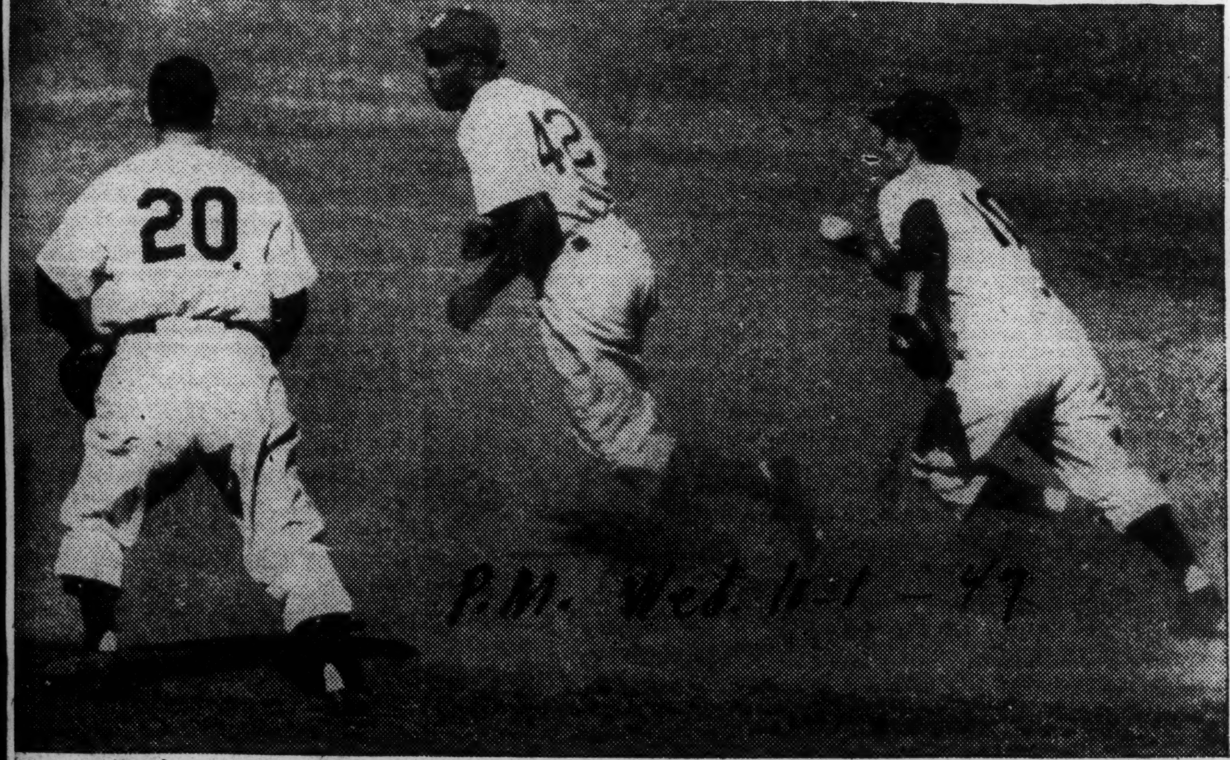
Jackie Robinson, first Negro to play in a World Series, hit, fielded, and ran about on a par with the average player of either team. He thus becomes one more living evidence that there is no difference in men because of color. Incidentally, the fact that he held up in World Series play, and did not go to pieces, means that he is made as a professional ball player in the big leagues. Negroes throughout America are proud of Jackie Robinson, because he met the crucial test under the spotlight, carrying the burden of the Negro race, and came through okeh. Sat.

Lighthouse & Informer

DODGER PILOT CONGRATULATES STAR PLAYER — NEW YORK — Burt Shotton, manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers, is shown congratulating Jackie Robinson star first baseman of the Dodgers on his outstanding performance in the opening game of the World Series today against the New York Yankees, as they left the Yankee Stadium after the game. (INP)

# Robinson Sets Up First Dodger Run; Yanks Win Opener 5-3





Jackie Robinson set up the Dodgers' first run in the first inning of yesterday's World Series opener when he was caught between second and third by Shea (left) and Rizzuto (right) who made the tag. During chase Reiser got to second, from where he scored on Walker's single. *Sports on Pages 25-28. Pictures on Pages 14-15.*

*Photos by AP and Morris Gordon, PM*

P.M. Wed. 10-1-47

# QUOTA SYSTEM ON NEGROES AT SERIES

Saint Louis Argus

NEW YORK (ANP)—Record crowds jammed the Yankee Stadium and Ebbets Field here last week during the first world series in which a Negro knowingly has participated.

Little did anybody know that a quota system had been devised to limit the number of Negro patrons. Sports editors on the scene didn't ask and the moguls who run baseball declined to discuss reports that such was the case.

But observers in the press boxes at both arenas talked guardedly about the distribution of tickets and hinted that those in charge had arranged the sale of tickets to conform with suggestions made earlier to the effect that it just wouldn't do to have too many Negroes cheering Jackie Robinson's exploits on the diamond.

Nevertheless, Mrs. Jackie Robinson, her mother, Mrs. Zellee Isum, the first baseman's mother, Mrs. Mallie Robinson, and countless other relatives from the west coast were on hand to say: "I told you so."

Jackie's wife, Rachel, wrote a series of articles for the local "People's Voice." Mrs. Isum was featured in stories carried by the Amsterdam News, dailies and other weekly newspapers and a good time was had by all.

It was estimated that Jackie would draw a total of $15,000 (net) when it was all over and "cut out," as they say in Harlem, in the new Cadillac given him recently by fans gone baseball crazy in the metropolitan area.

Nearly 250,000 persons saw the first four games, a record which even the once great Babe Ruth failed to achieve.

Fri. 10-10-47

# My Greatest Thrill, Jackie Tells Courier

Pittsburgh Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

**By JACKIE ROBINSON**
**(Brooklyn Dodgers' First Baseman)**

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—So we're in it and we're fighting those powerful Yankees!

Sat. 10-4-47

I can't tell you how great it is to be in the World Series; to be playing against such greats as DiMaggio, Henrich, Rizzuto, Reynolds and Newsom.

I can't express in words how great it feels to be playing first base for a team that led the National League all the way and then came through so swell when the Cards were hounding us in September.

It's really a thrill. I love it. The tremendous crowds, the excitement, the $$$ sign that is riding on every pitch.

Once, when I was at UCLA playing football, I dreamed of playing in the Rose Bowl. I thought that would be the height of my athletic career. We fought well, but we never got into it. And now, here I am, playing first base against the Yankees in the World Series.

As soon as I signed a contract to play with Montreal, I dreamed of coming to the Dodgers. And, then, I said to myself: "If I ever get that far I'll want to play in the World Series."

**"HERE I AM"** 10-4-47

Every player wants to be in it some time or other; every player wants to get a cut of that World Series money and also to wear the medal designating his team as the best in all baseball.

And, here I am; in the very thick of it. Boy! dreams do come true sometimes, don't they?

I have heard about athletes going cold, "freezing" up when they find themselves in such a big event as this. But I've never had that experience. The crowds and the noise and the tenseness of such occasions have never bothered me.

**"I LIKE TO PLAY"**

I like to play in that kind of atmosphere. I think all the Dodgers do. We experienced some of that on our last swing West. We played better ball then than at any time all year, except, of course, when we won those twelve games in a row.

Manager Bert Shotton has cautioned us about straining and trying to make more out of the Series than is actually necessary. He has told us to play the Yanks just as we did the Cardinals—hard and fast. But he doesn't want us to tighten up and get all excited about it.

**"I AM RELAXED"** 10-4-47

"Play them just like you were playing some team in our own league during the regular season," he said last Monday morning. "As long as we stay relaxed, we'll beat them easily."

Well, I'm relaxed . . . How about you folks?

*NEW YORK—Jackie Robinson is scheduled to appear on the Adam Hat "Big Break" NBC coast-to-coast radio program Sunday. Oct. 5.*

# Jackie Made $4,000 Series Money

Chicago Ill.

BROOKLYN, N.Y.—Jackie Robinson and the Brooklyn Dodger regulars will receive $4,000 for their part in the recent World Series with the New York Yankees "Happy" Chandler in Cincinnati.

The Yanks collected $207,343.42, but had voted 34 full shares and one three-quarter share. Brooklyn players' pool came to $138,228.-05, and there were 32 full shares and two one-half shares. 11-8-47

The baseball players' pension fund received the $175,000 paid for broadcasting rights.

Defender

WHILE THE WINNINGS per player were not the greatest in World Series history, they were which ended with the seventh game on Monday, Oct. 6. The winning Yankee players will get $5,800. These figures were announced at the office of Commissioner A. B. far better than the $3,742 each St. Louis Cardinal received as a member of the title winning club in 1946 and the $2,140 each Boston Red Sox got out of that series.

The dethroned Cards and the Detroit Tigers, who finished in second place in the National and American League races, respectively, will have $37,025.62 to divide among its players.

Third-placers — Boston in each circuit—received $24,683.74, and New York in the National, and Cleveland in the American, got $12,341.87 apiece to distribute, for finishing fourth.

A total of $493,674.82 made up the players' pot. The fabulous Yankee club and the growing Dodger empire each picked up $255,-117.94. Commissioner A. B. Chandler's office will bank $267,202.33 of the proceeds.

# BETWEEN THE LINES

Black dispatch

By Dean G. B. Hancock for ANP

Oklahoma City

**Brooklyn Wins Moral Victory!**

Somebody has said that a fool and his money are soon parted. Somebody else countered by saying that the wonder is not that the fool and his money are soon parted, but how they ever got together in the first place! Oklahoma.

Just how the Brooklyn Dodgers ever won a National league pennant and three games of a world series with the New York Yankees should stimulate the nation to serious reaction. With a corps of glass-arm pitchers and a plethora of anemic hitters aggravated by finicky fielding, the Brooklyn Dodgers have wrought a baseball miracle that should astound the world.

Shotton should be crowned king of jugglers. Any man who can take his pitching assortment and win a pennant and three games of a world series should be nominated to take over the presidency of the United States. Shotton is a wonder. If the Dodgers could have had just one tolerably well-pitched game they might have won the series. Sat. 10-25-47

The parade of Dodger pitchers was lamentable. Shea for the Yanks did some fine hurling as did Big Bill Bevins, but for the luckless Dodgers it was just one parade after another from the bullpen to the showers. Yet with perhaps the sorriest pitching ever offered by a team in the history of the world series, Brooklyn comes dangerously near playing the baseball masters, the Yanks, off their feet.

The explanation for Brooklyn's great stand is not difficult to find. The great difference between the Yanks and the Dodgers was, the Yanks were playing baseball after the most traditional fashion and with their accustomed consummate skill, while the Dodgers were supporting a great cause! The Yanks were motivated by athletic considerations and the Dodgers by race relational ones. This made the great difference. The major emphasis for the one was moral and for the other it was athletic.

By all means Brooklyn should have been a second division team and this is about where their sorry pitching rated them. But because of the implications of playing a Negro in the line-up, Brooklyn played inspired baseball throughout the season and won one of the greatest moral victories ever won upon the baseball diamond. Brooklyn has been buoyed the entire season by the thought that they were doing a big and brotherly thing. And indeed they were! They lost the world series but they made history that will outlast any thought of the series.

The Yanks were representing New York of the American league; but Brooklyn was representing the teachings of Jesus Christ. This it was that gave a second division team with "third division" pitching the stamina to beat the best in the National league and stand off the Yanks in a series that was in many ways shocking for its baseball flatness due to slovenly pitching. Suppose the Dodgers could have had under cover a Carl Hubbell or the Yanks could have come up with a Red Ruffin, although in Bevins and Shea the Yanks came close enough.

The Dodgers will go down in history as the first really big league team of irreproachable moral stamina. Branch Rickey and Burt Shotton have made history and while they lost the series they have won something far more abiding. There is something about representing a cause that makes a hero out of a coward and a moral titan out of a weakling. The man who believes that he is doing right is hard to conquer. It is said that you cannot whip a man who comes back for one more round.

The man who believes in the righteousness of his cause always comes back and that is just why the Yanks had such a tussle with the Brooklyn Dodgers. The Dodgers kept coming back with glass-arm pitching and anemic batting and staved off the Yankees thru six games of hectic baseball. A series that should have gone four straight to those Yanks that I so much dislike was drawn out thru seven games. Why? Because Brooklyn had ceased to play baseball and had begun to play a great cause. 10-25-47

The Negro race and the champions of better race relations the world over owe Brooklyn a debt of gratitude that will be hard to pay. The world will long remember the first National league baseball campaign that included a Negro. Hail, Brooklyn Dodgers, moral world champions of 1947!

# Durocher Off List as 32 Dodgers Draw Full World Series Shares

Times New York, N.Y.

## Brooks Got $4,081 Apiece While 27 Yankees Received $5,830 Each From Classic, Chandler's Office Reports

Thur. 10-16-47

CINCINNATI, Oct. 15 (AP)—The Brooklyn Dodgers did not deal in Leo Durocher, their former manager, for a share of the world series pot. His name is missing from the lists of players sharing in world series receipts announced today by Walter Mulbry, secretary-treasurer of baseball.

Although Durocher was suspended for the 1947 season by Commissioner A. B. Chandler last April, there was some speculation Durocher might be voted a cut of the melon. New York,

Each full share was $5,830.03 for the champion New York Yankees and $4,081.18 for the Dodgers who were defeated in the seven-game fall classic. Twenty-seven Yankees and thirty-two Dodgers got full shares. N.Y.

**Cards' Full Share $1,175**

A full share for the St. Louis Cardinals, runner-up in the National League pennant race, amounted to $1,175.42 and for Detroit, second-place team in the American, it was $1,165.90.

As third placers, a full share for the Braves was $747.99 and for the Red Sox, $715.02. For fourth place, the full share was $342.83 for the Giants and $391.81 for the Indians.

These Yankees received full shares: Thur. 10-16-47

Phil Rizzuto, Joe DiMaggio, Tom Henrich, George Stirnweiss, Bill Johnson, George McQuinn, Aaron Robinson, John Lindell, Spurgeon Chandler, Frank Shea, Allie Reynolds, Joe Page, Larry Berra, Bill Bevens, Bobby Brown, Karl Drews, Don Johnson, Charlie Wensloff, Ralph Houk, Randy Gumpert, Charles Keller, Bucky Harris, Frank Crosetti, Chuck Dressen, John Schulte, Johnny Coriden and Ed Froelich.

Receiving $4,372.52 were Buck Newsom, Vic Raschi, Linus Frey, Frank Colman, Arthur Patterson and Pete Sheehy. John Lucadello, Allie Clark, Mel Queen and Al Lyons each reached $2,915.02.

Those receiving $1,457.51 were Sherman Lollar, Jack Phillips, Norman Macphail, Frank Scott and Pete Previtt.

**$1,000 to Tom Byrne**

Walter Owens was given $1,500 and Tom Byrne received $1,000, while Dick Starr got $750. Checks for $500 went to Ken Silvestri and Gus Mauch, while Harry Jacobs and Ralph Carrieri got $250 each.

The Dodgers voted full shares to: Rex Barney, Harold Gregg, Joe Hatten, Henry Behrman, Ralph Branca, Hugh Casey, Vic Lombardi, Harry Taylor, Clyde King, Bruce Edwards, Gil Hodges, Robert Bragan, Pee Wee Reese, Jack Robinson, Ed Stanky, John Jorgensen, Floyd Vaughan, Eddie Miksis, Stanley Rojek, Harry Lavagetto, Tommy Brown, Carl Furillo, Fred Walker, Harold Reiser, Gene Hermanski, Al Gionfriddo, Bert Shotton, Clyde Sukeforth, Ray Blades, Jake Pitler, Harold Wendler and Harold Parrott.

Daniel Comerford and John Griffin each received $2,040.59, while Edwin Snider was voted $1,000.

Stanley Strull got $500 and the following received $300 each: Don Bankhead, Edward Chandler, George Dockins, Marvin Rackley, Philip Haugstad and Don Lund. William McDonald got $250.

# Robbie Bats .296, Fields Brilliantly

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

**B-U-L-L-E-T-I-N**

**NEW YORK—Overcoming a two-run lead, the New York Yankees, true to pre-Series predictions, came through to win the seventh and final game of the World Series, and thus the world's championship, by a score of 5 to 2 in Yankee Stadium here Monday.**

**It was the fourth triumph for the Yanks, who came back with grim determination after the fighting Brooks had battled in brilliant fashion to tie up the game count at three victories apiece on Sunday.**

**In Monday's game Robinson lined out three times and struck out once in four times at bat, bringing his batting average for the series down to .296. He fielded without an error throughout the Series.**

Sat. 10-11-47

**By WENDELL SMITH**
**(Sports Editor)**

PRESS BOX, YANKEE STADIUM, NEW YORK, Oct. 5—Evening-tide is settling over spacious Yankee Stadium and the Yankees and Dodgers are trotting off the field.

Through the dusk that has slowly engulfed every one, including the record crowd of 74,055, who saw the courageous Dodgers whip the Yanks, 8 to 6, Sunday, in what can go down in history as the most thrilling World Series of all time.

So it's all tied up now at three games each and the great battle for that all-important seventh game is due to come off before another record-breaking throng.

As the happy Dodgers run off the field and head for the dressing room, Jackie Robinson is clutching the last ball that Hugh Casey threw for dear life. It was a "dear life" game. He tagged first base for the last out and thereby sealed the doom of the Yanks in the longest game in World Series history.

**JACKIE A NECESSITY**

Whether the Dodgers win or lose now, this much is certain, they couldn't have done it without Jack Roosevelt Robinson.

Furthermore, he has proven that he has no rivals for the "Rookie of the Year" honors.

Before this great classic got under way, there was some question about that. Some people—including his teammates—felt that such honors should be split between Robinson and third baseman Johnny Jorgenson, who played fine ball all season.

**TRANSCENDS JORGENSON**

But in this series Robinson has left no room for such a comparison.

Jorgenson has been the Dodgers' "problem child." He has made two crucial errors and his batting average for six games is a measly .167.

On the other hand, Robinson has fielded flawlessly and hit as well as he did during the regular season, with a mark of .297. For the six games in the series he has hit .304.

**GETS SEVEN HITS**

Jackie has a total of seven hits to his credit and is tied with Pee Wee Reese for the lead in that department, insofar as the Dodgers are concerned. He has stolen two bases and scored three runs.

Last spring Branch Rickey said the Dodgers' future hinged on what was developed at first base.

Well, Robinson was developed at first base and they not only won the pennant, but, as this is being written were fighting the mighty Yanke tooth and nail for the world's championship.

**GIVES BROOKS "UMPH"**

All because a swift-footed Negro player produced when the chips were down, Brooklyn has the extra "umph" they needed.

There may have been more thrilling series down through the years, but sage historians are having a difficult time finding out when.

And, if we just must get racial conscious about it in determining who shall wear the wreath of heroism, we'll have to pass the laurels to players of Italian extraction.

**LAUDS DODGER STARS**

For the Dodgers, it's been Cookie Lavagetto and young Al Gionfriddo.

In that thrilling fourth game at Ebbets, Lavagetto banged in the winning run—the only hit off Bevens—after Gionfriddo had stolen second and upset the Yanks.

Then, in the sixth game, little Al made a catch that will go down in history, taking a drive by DiMaggio with two men on that was ticketed a home run the second it left Joe's bat.

So, two Italians, Lavagetto and Gionfriddo, have saved it for the Dodgers. They combined their talents in the fourth game—Cookie banging out the winning and only Dodger hit, and Gionfriddo stealing second base with two outs in the ninth when all looked lost for Brooklyn, and then doing the impossible on DiMaggio's great drive.

**DIMAG GREAT**

As for the Yanks, DiMaggio has been the "great one." An Italian, too, Joe has been the main thorn in the Bums' side.

Taking, then, everything into consideration, this has been the "Battle of Italy," if we just must look at the thrilling series through race-tinted glasses.

Dan Bankhead went in to run for Bobby Bragan in the sixth inning of Sunday's game, and came home with a run for Brooklyn when Reese singled to left.

**JACKIE INVALUABLE**

What about Jackie Robinson?

Well, the Dodgers couldn't have won without him, that's certain. But destiny has not decreed thus far that he was to be the "hero of 'em all."

He's been no less than brilliant at times, but you can't give him the wreath of honor without slighting Lavagetto and Gionfriddo.

Robinson has hit, ran and fielded sensationally.

He has been—as he was during the season—the "dash man" of Brooklyn.

Of all the rookies on both clubs, he has been the most outstanding. That is a certainty.

In the first game, he was Brooklyn's ace, although the Yanks won.

In the other five, he's been right in the middle of the picture, and Sunday he banged out two important hits—one a double—when Brooklyn needed them badly.

**A REAL BIG LEAGUER**

If Branch Rickey ever had any doubts about signing Robinson, he has none now. The Negro first baseman has proven to one and all that he's a big leaguer.

He has convinced the Yanks, for instance, that the color of a man's skin is not the basis on which big leaguers are based.

In fact, there is no racial standard for determining "heroes" or "goats" in the world series.

As we pointed out, the Italians have dominated the show, but you can't forget Hugh Casey, the Irishman; Robinson, the Negro; Shea, the Welshman, or Pee Wee Reese, the shortstopping kid from Louisville, Ky.

In short, it's been a great series, no matter whom your parents were.

51b 1947

Jackie Robinson (World Series)

# Robinson, Bankhead History Makers In '47 Dodgers-Yankee Fight

(51b) Informer, Huston, Texas. (World Series)

Sat. 10-11-47

By P. BERNARD YOUNG, Jr.

YANKEE STADIUM, New York Oct— (NNPA)— History was set in more ways than one here last Sunday afternoon. For the first time in the history of the World Series two Negroes performed in the classic of the national pastime and both scored vital runs, contributing heavily toward the blood tingling triumph of the democratic Brooklyn Dodgers over the New York Yankees, 8- to 6, to even the games at three all.

Starring afield and at bat again was the great Jackie Robinson but ·n this memorable Sabbath afternoon he was joined in writing history by young Dan Bankhead who registered Brooklyn's seventh run in thet fifth inning aft r entering the game to run for relief catcher Bragan who had pinchhit for pitcher Ralph Branca. He did a neat bit of base running.

But it was the fleet footed and reliable Jackie Robinson who won the chief plaudits of the fans and the admiration of the sports world. How magnificently he came thru, despite the terrific pressure and cruel heckling from the Yankee dugout, is bestrevealed with an inning by inning resume of the story book game.

First inning: After Ed Stanky, singled to the far left field and Peewee Reese singled cleanly over second Robinson came up to the bat with a chance to star or dub. He did not fail but sent a long high ball solidly hit almost into the left field stands beyond the reach of both Johnnie Lindell and Phil Rizutto of the Yankees who made vain efforts to get under it. This blow sent Stanky to third, loading the bags with none out. Dixie Walker doubled and the Dodgers were ahead to trail only once in the furiously see-sawing battle. Robinson was forced out at second by Walker. Sliding into the bag with all his vaunted speed he slightly injured little Phil Rizzuto.

10-11-47

When the Yankees came to bat Robinson made two putouts effortlessly, and the inning ended with the Dodgers holding a 2 to 0 lead.

Second inning: Robinson did not get a turn at bat but fielded first baseman Phillips' hot grounder faultlessly for an unassister put out and took Reese's throw of Rizzuto's grounder for the third out.

Third Inning: This is the time that a ground rule robbed Robinson of a home run. Coming up after Stanky flied out to Joe DiMaggio and Reese doubled, Robinson sent a towering line drive deep into far left field. It bounded on one hop into the lower stands but scored Reese with the Brooks' third run, although Jackie had to hold up at second. When Walker sent a long drive to right field Robinson scored easily from second base, taking off with the pitch. The inning ended wth Brooklyn ahead 4 to 0.

When the Yankees came to bat the Dodgers were in for grief, although the tide turned in their favor later. You know the story. The Yanks tied up the score 4 to 4. When third baseman Bill Johnson of the Bombers smacked a hot ball between second and first Robinson made a dive for it but it was unplayable. He didnt get his hands on it.

Fourth inning: Robinson did not come to bat. Afield he did not figure in any plays. The Yanks went ahead 5 to 4.

Fifth inning: Reese walked and was forced at second on Robinsons blow, a fielder's choice. Robbie was worrying the pitcher who thre wover to first repeatedly to keep the ational League Base Stealing Champ close to the bag. Eventually Karl Drews, who relieved Reynolds on the mound, was himself replaced by Joe Page, the famed Yankee Reliefer. Walker famed with Robbie holding first. Ed Miksis, substituted for Gene Hermanski at bat. flied out to Rizzuto, Robbie being left on first. On defense Robinson handled two putouts.

Sixth inning: This was the big inning. Bruce Edwards singled to right field and Carl Furillo doubled to deep left to put the winning runs on base. Edwards going to third Cookie Lavagetto, the hero of Friday's ninth inning Dodger victory, was sent into bat for Johnny Jorgensen but flies out to right field. Edward tagged up and beat the throw in for the tying run,, 5 to 5. Bragan. pinchhitting for Branca, doubled to deep left. scoring Furillo with the run that put Brooklyn ahead, 6 to 5, never to be headed.

Dan Bankhead came in to run for Bragan, being a fast runner as well as a heavy hitting pitcher, and a second black American at last played i the American National sports biggest event. Stanky lined the ball into the outfield, going o second, but although Bankhead had rounded third enroute home he was signalled by coach Charlie Dressen to hold up. He slid to a stop, sat down and hustled safely back to third.

This, ended the pitching for Page and Bobo Newsome came in. Reese singled to score both Bankhead anr Stanky easily. Then Robinson came up again with one out and one on. He looked at two balls and took a called strike, which looked outside and the crowd booed the plate umpire's decision. Then Jackie lashed out at the next pitch and a homer appeared on its way to the far left field stands, but Yogi Berra, a catcher sent into leftfield in the Yankees' frantic efforts to win, made a great run and pulled the ball in twenty feet from the lower stands. It was the first time in four times up that Robbie had not got aboard. The inning ended when Walker fouled out to third base. All Brooklyn runs were earned.

When the American League leaders took the offensive trailing 8 to 5 the eventful final score, the only play that could be remembered of the inning and one which will be talked of for as long as baseball lasts was substitute outfield Al Gionfriddo's unbelieveable catch of DiMaggio's 415 foot smash. The fleet footed player raced back to the very games of the Dodger Bull Pen, leaped as he fell against them, snared and held the ball. Had he not held the spheroid the score would have been tied as two men were on base. Robinson did not handle the ball during this inning.

Seventh inning: Robinson did not come to bat and handled the ball in only one play when Joe Hatten, now pitching for Brooklyn bobbled pinch hitter Houks' easy grounder and threw late to first.

Eight inning: When the Dodgers came up for their turn at bat they faced Wensloff, the sixth Yankee pitcher of the day. His appearance tied the series record for the most number of pitchers in any one game. The Dodgers were three up and three down but Jackie had no turn at bat. The third Yankee out in the Bombers half of the inning came when Lavagetto tossed DiMaggio out, third to first baseman Robinson.

10-11-47

Ninth inning: Hugh Casey, who had saved and been credited as winning two earlier Dodger victories, entered the game in this inning at Hatten's relief and the the Yankees loaded the bases with one out. Then pinch hitter Frey lined a hot one down toward first which Robinson gobbled up throwing to second to force Yankee catcher Aaron Robinson who blocked the throw to first for a double play, however, with only one out to go to even the series. Casey forced Stirnweiss to roll an easy one to him, then threw to the Dark Target at first base.. Robinson held the ball as usual and the game was over.

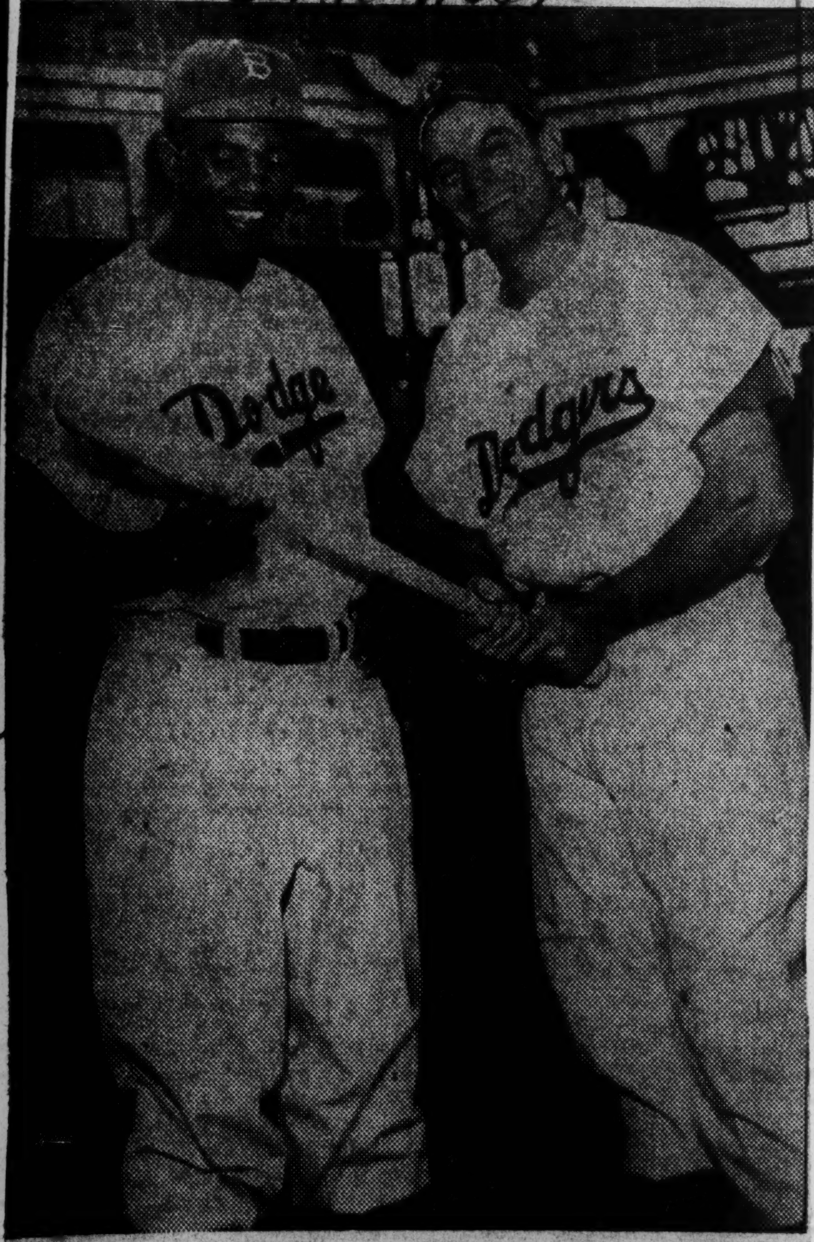
It was a long game and the entire playing field was in shadows. After slightly over three hours of the kind of baseball that thrills and chills, the series was forced to the seventh and last game to determine the champions of the world. And two black men helped in the crucial sixth game to force the decision over the final test. Black America is rightfully proud of them and especially of Jackie Robinson. the pigeon-toed Ty Cobb in technicolor, in the words of Bill (Bojangles) Robinson.

Until Sunday Bankhead's nearest to getting into a series game was Saturday when he was ordered to warm up along with one other Dodger pitcher in the late innings.

'DiMaggio Really Great'

# Jackie Lauds Lavagetto, Gionfriddo

Courier (World Series)
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat. 10-11-47




**JACKIE AND COOKIE**—Jackie Robinson examines the bat which made Cookie Lavagetto, right, the hero of Friday's game. Cookie banged out a booming double to bring across the winning run and give the Dodgers new life.—Rowe Photo.

By JACKIE ROBINSON
(Exclusive to The Pittsburgh Courier)

**YANKEE STADIUM, New York, Oct. 6—This is being written on the final day of the World Series. We're due to play the Yanks in the seventh and all-important game today.**

When you play in a World Series, there is only one thing to remember, and that is give your best and never stop trying.

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

The Yanks were top-heavy favorites when this series started, but we've kept fighting and playing out the string and now we are right at the wire with them.

It's been a great thrill to play in the series. I got a great kick out of each game, and a special thrill when I got my first hit in the second game.

Bevens had us going in that fourth game, but good ole Cookie Lavagetto came through and that's all that counts. Sat. 10-11-47

In the sixth game it was Al Gionfriddo, the little outfielder. He caught a ball with two men on that had everyone standing on their ears.

**WE'D HAVE BEEN THROUGH**

I've played a lot of ball, but I've never seen the likes of that. He ran and ran after that ball. I didn't think he'd catch it, but he did. That saved us. If that ball had landed safely, we'd have been all through.

In my opinion, Frank Shea has been the best pitcher the Yanks have thrown at us. It's true that Bevens held us to one hit, but Shea has been a real toughie.

He has a great "slider," a pitch that looks like a curve but isn't. When he pitches to me, he shoots for the outside corner. He's been very good at it, too. We have all had trouble with him.

**PRAISE FOR JOE**

Last, but not least, you can't talk about good players without saying something about Joe DiMaggio. He is really great. He can hit, run and field, and he does it with such ease.

They say he's the best in the business. I think they're right.

## Wendell Smith's Sports Beat

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

### World Series Star Dust . . .

NEW YORK CITY—The 1947 World Series has turned out to be the greatest spectacle in baseball history . . . The battle between the Yanks' and Dodgers is a natural and more people have turned out and paid more money to see the classic than ever before . . . The Series is forty-four years old now and as this is written the Yanks and Brooks are tied at three all . . . The first three games weren't the type you'd expect to see the champions of the American and National leagues play . . . The Yanks took the first, 5 to 3, but it wasn't what you'd call a stunning victory . . . Manager Bert Shutton was guilty of letting Branca stay in too long, and Pete Reiser committed the unpardonable sin of getting the sun and the ball and his eyes all mixed up. Sat. 10-11-47

**In the first game, Jackie Robinson, although he didn't get a hit in two official trips to the plate, was the sparkplug of the Dodgers . . . In the second contest, the Yanks made it two straight, winning 10 to 3. The Bums were just what the name implies as they booted and fumbled themselves all over the big stadium which held 73,000.**

Then the teams moved to Brooklyn and the Dodgers took the next two, 9 to 8 and 3 to 2.

**The fourth game was the thriller of all thrillers with likable Cookie Lavagetto socking out a do-or-die hit in the ninth with two out and New York leading 2 to 1 . . . The hit smashed Bill Bevens' dream of a no-hitter and the Yankees' hope for victory number three as the stitched pellet caromed off the right field wall and Al Gionfriddo and Ed Miksis, a couple of substitute thorobreds in baseball uniforms, came zooming home on the crest of a thunderous ovation . . . It was a heart-breaker to lose and a wonderful game to win. The Ebbetts Field maniacs—known as fans elsewhere—surged down out of the stands and swarned their "Cookie" as no player has ever been crowd-swept before . . . That was the the climax of the greatest game we have ever seen, and it put the Brooks back in the Series.**

The following day, the Yanks came roaring back on the trusty right arm of Frank Shea . . . The final score was 2 to 1 and Brooklyn's one marker was driven in by Jackie Robinson in the fifth inning . . . Joe DiMaggio, baseball's classiest outfielder, belted a long home run to win for the Yanks . . . On Sunday the Dodgers won 8 to 6, to tie the Series at three apiece . . . By the time you read this the Series will be over and the Yanks, playing the final games in their own orchard, probably will be the peaches of the baseball world for 1947.

### Circuit Clouts From the Press Box . . .

**More than 200 writers here to cover Series . . . They have come from as far away as China . . . Negro press well represented, but some editors have cheated their sports department by grabbing tickets and sitting in press box . . . One editor said he took tickets and sat in the press box because "our sports editor was too busy to come." . . . All of which is another way of saying that the big boss—although he can't write baseball—wanted to see the Series and didn't care whose ticket he confiscated.**

Lena Horne's father, Teddy, came to see the classic, caught a cold and had to hear it via radio from a hospital . . . Earl McDonald, Washington sportsman, thought he was well on his way to becoming an expert when the Yanks won first two games, and he had predicted they'd win it in four . . . The Dodgers proved him a dud, however, by coming back and winning the next two and then tieing it up at three all . . . Art Wilson and John Britton, shortstop and third baseman of the Birmingham Black Barons, came in for the Series and were victims when a theif stole their clothes from the hotel where they stayed . . . According to reliable sources, the "famed" Theresa Hotel was put on the block at $950,000.

**Among the many guests at that hotel were: J. B. Martin, president of the Negro American League; John Roxborough, Joe Louis' boss; Marshall Miles, the Champ's current manager; the Charles Abernathy's who operates a hotel in St. Louis—the De-Luxe—and President William Gray of Florida A. and M. College, who says the Orange Blossom football classic in Miami on Dec. 6, will be more colorful than ever before.**

Gene Autrey, Danny Kaye, Leo Durocher, Happy Chandler and Jack Benny were photographers' targets throughout the Series . . . Dodger scouts held a reunion and agreed that Big Don Newcombe sepia hurler who starred for the Dodgers' farm club at Nashua, N. H., has plenty of natural ability, but still hasn't developed a good change-of-pace ball . . . They say he must have one to get to the majors and will get a chance to develop same at Montreal next season.

**Sonnyman Jackson owner of the Homestead Grays, was on hand and saying that high salaries will soon kill Negro baseball . . . Charley Ferrell, Chicago businessman, said Yogi Berra, Yankee backstop, couldn't catch a cold . . . And, he was right . . .**

Elliott Rouse, owner of a good hotel in Chicago—The Como— picked the Yanks and then went out and played golf.

## Yogi Berra Couldn't Throw . . . Sat-10-11-47

Robinson never had a chance to pull his sneak bunt during th Series . . . Yankee's Johnson played right up on the infield gras whenever he batted . . . Before the Series started, Berra said he kne how to keep Jackie from stealing bases . . . He never revealed th great secret, however . . . Robinson stole on him the first time h got on base in the first game . . . In fact, the Yanks' had a toug time stopping the Bums on base . . . The first eight times they trie to steal, seven slid into second safely . . . Rizzuto, Stirnweiss, Lindel and Shea conversed with Robinson whenever they got on base.

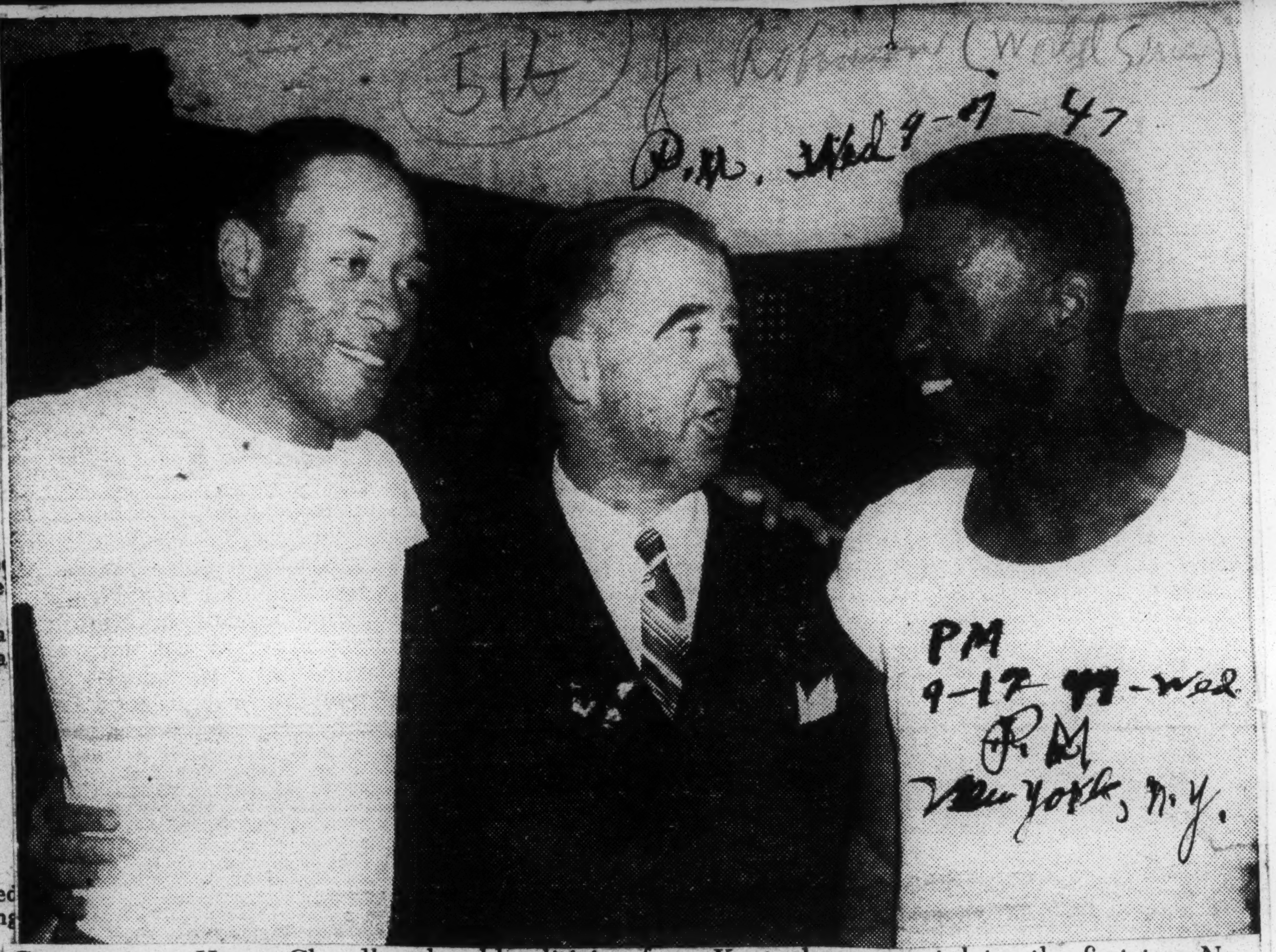
**Shea pitched outside to Robby and Dixie Walker . . . His "slider" caused the Dodgers many anxious moments as it nipped the outside corner with monotonous regularity . . . Tom Baird, who was Robinson's boss when he was shortstopping for the Kansas City Monarchs, saw Saturday's game along with 33,479 others . . . Dan Bankhead, the pitcher Brooklyn bought from the Memphis Red Sox, kept busy in the bull pen . . . "He warmed up so much," Freddy Guinyard, who owns a good hotel in Detroit, said, "he had a glow after every game."**

Lucky Millender's hotel room, with Sally Nix playing host, serve spiked coffee every day to their friends who flooded the joint afte each game . . . He and his crack band open at the Apollo Friday . . Dr. G. Alex Galvin, first Negro to ever be appointed to the staff a Cornell University, was ducking the truant office and hiding a Yankee Stadium in a reserved seat.

**Just before Saturday's game, Billy Rowe, Courier photographer, asked Cookie Lavagetto to pose for a picture with Jackie Robinson. He asked Cookie to hold a bat in his hands. "Let Jackie pose holding the bat," Cookie said with a smile, "he's a much better hitter than I am" . . . Yanks on the bench dished out some name-calling to Robinson that would have made the Philadelphia Phillies blush, and they were supposed to have been champions in that phase of the game.**

Winfield Welch, best manager in Negro baseball, almost swooned when Bucky Harris ordered Bevens to walk Reiser Friday, putting what proved to be the winning run on first.

**Negro National and American leagues held a joint meeting Saturday night.**




Commissioner Happy Chandler, the old politician from Kentucky, congratulates the first two Negroes ever to play in a World Series, Dan Bankhead (left) and Jackie Robinson, in Dodger dressing room after the final game of the Series at the Stadium.

*Associated Press Photo*

Thur 10-2-47

Daily World

**ROBINSON IN FIRST STOLEN BASE OF WORLD SERIES**— Just a few moments after he had been walked, Jackie Robinson, first base man for the Dodgers, goes to second in the first stolen base of the World Series at the Yankee Stadium, New York. Rizzue, Yankee shortstop, took the throw from catcher Berra. Umpire Rommel, calling the play Jackie safe. The Yanks won 5 to 3. (International)

Atlanta Ga

# Dodgers' Loss Fails to Dishearten Team

## 'Wait 'Til Next Year,' Jackie Says, 'We'll Beat Them Sure Next Time'

NEW YORK—"We're sorry we didn't win it, but we have no alibis. The Yanks are a darn good team, and we pushed them right down to the last putout.

"Wait 'til next year. We have youth, speed and a lot of things on our side, and we'll beat them sure next time."

That is the way Jackie Robinson, dejected and disappointed over the Dodgers losing the World Series to the Yankees, spoke as he and his defeated teammates relaxed in the noisy confines of the dressing room deep below the stands in Yankee Stadium Monday afternoon.

**No Regrets Expressed**

The succinct statement summed up the feelings of the Dodgers who had no regrets over losing the final game to the Yankees, 5-2, after coming within an eyelash of taking the world championship.

They had given fans who thronged into the two stadiums, Yankee and Ebbets Field, a thrill-a-minute for the full seven games in this, the richest series in the 44-year-old history of the classic, and had simply run out of gas in the waning minutes.

Into the milling, crowded dressing room, where cameras were grinding, flash bulbs popping and reporters screaming for the players to talk louder, walked Commissioner Happy Chandler, the major domo of organized baseball.

**Chandler Singles Out Jackie**

Chandler, who had called Jackie to his box at the outset of the first game to wish him luck, congratulated Burt Shotton, manager of the Dodgers, chatted with several other players, then sat down beside Jackie and said:

"It was too bad, but there's always another year."

Jackie, visibly dejected, agreed. "Yes, but there was no year like this one. I wish we could have beat them."

Then Chandler, who like Robinson, has had his ups and downs in the commissioner's hot seat, gave Jackie an understanding slap on the back, and added:

"Well, you did all you could. You played fine ball all season, and no one is prouder of your success than I am. You know yours was an exceptional case.

"All of us in the executive departments were deeply concerned about you when you first came up. I want you to know that we think you're a big leaguer both on and off the field."

**Shotton Glad of Presence**

At this point, Manager Shotton threaded his way through the mob of newspapermen and cameramen and declared, "Jackie, we'll have to get them next year."

Robinson shook Shotton's hand in approval and said, "It has been a great pleasure playing for you during the season. I've enjoyed every minute of it."

Shotton smiled and with intense feeling replied, "Jackie, you're a gentleman. I was glad to have had you on first base."

**Called Credit to Baseball**

The conversation then shifted to Chandler as Jackie donned his towel and headed for the showers. Shotton looked at Chandler and emphasized: "He's a real game player. I've never seen a player with more heart."

Commissioner Chandler nodded his head in agreement and said, "He's a credit to baseball and just think some people didn't want a fine man like him in the majors."

A few minutes later, Chandler posed with Jackie and Dan Bankhead for the photographers. Bankhead, slightly remorseful over the loss of the title to the Yanks and the fact that he was unable to get more action in the games, talked about next year.

**Bankhead Lays Plans**

Dan plans a barnstorming trip with an all-star team, then hopes to get a full tryout with the Dodgers next spring.

He saw action in only one series game, the sixth, when he ran for Bob Bragan and scored a run, one of the two tallies which gave the Brooks a 8-6 victory on Sunday.

Thus closed the 44th annual World Series with the players patting each other on the back and heading for home.

It had been the most fabulous series in history with a record-breaking crowd of 389,763 fans paying a net of $2,021,348.92 to see the seven games.

**Pair Draw Spectators**

Jackie and Dan, to a major extent, had served as the magnets which lured many of the fans there.

To their everlasting credit the gates far overshadowed anything established during the heyday of the baseball greats, Babe Ruth, Ty Cobb and a host of others, whose names are enshrined in the game's Hall of Fame at Cooperstown, N.Y.

On the collective lips of the final day's throng, 71,000, were the names of many of the classic's stars but Jackie's was always mentioned.

These fans had seen the gamut of baseball run from bad to good. They had done miracles on the diamond, feats that will serve as Stove League talk for many moons.

In the midst of all this sometimes zany, yet thrilling, series, Robinson had been a sparkplug from the outset.

He was the first Dodger to reach first base, the first man to steal a base, and his speed had annoyed Yankee pitchers into many bad pitches, and once so worried Frank Shea that the Yankee hurler balked while trying to pick him off first base for the fifth time.

**Exploits Recounted**

Afield, his steady play had been one of the Dodgers' strong points, as he handled without error 58 chances, and participated in eight double plays.

In the final game, his backhand stab of Yogi Berra's smashing grounder with three on base and a perfect toss to Hank Behrman snuffed out a Yankee rally, and established the play as one of the best of the series.

Berra, incidentally, was little trouble to Jackie and his mates, though in a pre-series statement he had declared that he knew whenever Jackie was going to run and could throw him out anytime he moved.

**Makes Fool of Berra**

As it turned out, Jackie made a fool of him, stealing twice on him and finally forced Manager Bucky Harris to replace him with Aaron Robinson and Sherman Lollar.

Jackie said "Berra can't throw a lick. If he caught in our league every day during the season, I'd steal 60 bases."

They recalled the great catch made by Al Gionfriddo of Joe DiMaggio's drive in the sixth game, mused over DiMaggio's home run which won the fifth setto and ad libbed about the sterling relief pitching by Hugh Casey and Joe Page.

Players complained about the poor pitching by the Brooks' staff in general, but somewhere in the conversation always the name of Robinson was mentioned.

**Players Won Over**

Jackie's speed had tantalized the Yankee backstops; his bat had driven across three runs in important stages of the series; and he closed the series with a .259 batting average.

He had established himself as a baseball player long to be remembered, and his teammates, slightly hostile to him at the season's outset, had come to regard him as one of the boys.

As they packed their belongings and left for their separate ways until next spring, many of them stopped over at his dressing locker to bid him farewell for the season.

They invariably added a few words of commendation for his good work during the season — words of commendation that Jackie soaked in with happy smiles and surely will remember and treasure throughout the rest of his baseball career.

## End of a Myth

The World Series is over. Many records were broken, and; also shattered, for once and for all, is the myth of race superiority, thanks to the expert playing of Jackie Robinson and Dan Bankhead, both of whom covered themselves with dust and glory. Our boys showed again that they could complete with the best the world has to offer and still come out on top, proving that equality is not so much a matter of respective abilities as it is a matter of opportunity.

Jackie Robinson

This was brought forcibly to me some years ago.

I was standing on an expansive street in San Francisco with my old friend and contemporary, P. L. Prattis, when an insignificant, nondescript-looking colored motorman came clanging down the street driving a trolley car.

**"You see," said Prattis, "that just proves how a white man tries to hoodwink us. Because we see only white men operating streetcars, we get the idea that it is difficult, but that little fellow proves that there is no mystery about it at all."**

How many of the oldtimers recall how they gaped the first time they ever saw a colored man driving an automobile or flying an airplane?

*Jackie and Dan proved that playing in the World Series is no great shucks. All we need is a chance and the statures of Babe Ruth, Carl Hubble, Joe DiMaggio, Ty Cobb and others whose very names used to make our youngsters stand in awe are now cut down to our size.*

# Jackie Fields Without Error And Bats .259

(Other Stories and Pictures on Pages 8, 12, 20, 22)

By FAY YOUNG

NEW YORK — The New York Yankees took the seventh and deciding game of the 1947 World Series from the Brooklyn Dodgers, the gamest team which ever took the field here Monday before a crowd of rabid fans, 5-2. And as the sun cast deep shadows over Yankee Stadium after the fifth inning, the Yankees won their 11th world series title. This is the 15th time that the Yankees have won the American League pennant.

**Jackie's Spirit Great**

Robinson, by his dash and his spirit, had kept his mates on their toes. He never lost confidence and up until the last out, he kept that spirit alive among the Dodgers.

Jackie, himself, had fielded flawlessly. He had batted .259, getting seven hits in 27 trips to the plate in the seven games. Two of his safe blows were doubles. He had two stolen bases to his credit.

The Dodgers were great even in defeat. Two down at the end of the second game they fought back. On the short end of the 3-2 game score they came through to tie the knot 3-all on Sunday. They were game to the core. The sporting world, especially the baseball followers, all take their hats off to a great team and to Branch Rickey, a great owner who gave Robinson his chance.

Four times, back in 1921 and 1922, the New York Giants took the series, 5-3 and 4-0. St. Louis Cardinals defeated the Yankees, 4-3 in 1926 and the Cardinals did it again, 4-1, in 1942.

Frank Shea of the Yankees attempted to come back seeking his second win against the Dodgers with but one day's rest. The four-hit attack which scored two runs for the Dodgers in the second was the end of Mr. Shea. Hermanski tripled, Edwards sent him home with a single. Furillo singled and Jogenson's double sent Edwards home.

**Yanks Tie Score**

The Yankees pushed one run over in their half of the second. Bobby Brown's pinch-hit double sent W. Johnson home with the tying run and Rizzuto pulled up at third in the fourth. That was all for Harold Gregg. Henry Behrman relieved him and walked Stirnweiss, the first man to face him. That was the 66th walk of the series. Henrich singled sending Rizzuto home and the Yankees went out in front 3-2. Jackie Robinson took the grounder and threw to Behrman who covered first. Robinson got a big hand as he went to the Dodger dugout. He had moved over towards second to scoop up what might have been a base hit.

Robinson looked over a ball then lined to Henrich in left in, the first inning. In the third, he struck out with the call, two strikes and one ball and having fouled off two.

With two down in the fifth, Robinson lined out to left. Joe Page was on the mound for the American League champions.

The Yankees filled the bases in the home fifth, Allie Clark singled sending Rizzuto home, the Yankees leading 4-2. Rex Barney went to the mound.

Johnson tripled in the home seventh and scored after an outfield

catch. The Yanks led, 5-2.

Jackie Robinson came up with two down in the eighth. He looked over a ball. A fast ball went "right down the middle" for a called strike. DiMaggio took Robinson's fly for the third out of the inning.

## AS THOUSANDS CHEER

Defender, Chicago, Ill.

Now that our beloved "Bums" of Brooklyn have bowed out of the newspapers and Jackie Robinson goes on a barnstorming tour, we are on the brink of new thrills in another field of sports. Practically every major northern college has a Negro player on its football team and in professional football we have the redoubtable Buddy Young and other gridiron greats. The colored athlete is coming into his own for the first time in American history.

No sports exploits of 1947, however, will obscure the memory of the Yankee-Dodger super-thriller World Series. Our sentiments were well expressed by the New York Times editorial of last Tuesday. Said the Times: Sat. 10-18-47

"This World Series just concluded was more than just another set of games, however. Because one of the teams was the Dodgers. They are more uniquely American than any other sports team we can think of at the moment. This year they were more so than usually. For the first time in the history of the major leagues, they had a Negro, Jack Robinson, as one of their stars. Their roster was a cross section of American national backgrounds. Given little chance to win the pennant, they scrambled to the National League leadership in July and held it to the end. Almost disgraced in the first two series games by an admittedly more expert Yankee team, they fought back to tie it at three all. Every game was out of a story book, a scenario written for Dick Merriwell."

# THE POINT

— By —
Gordon B. Hancock

## From What Direction Cometh The Kingdom Of God? Perhaps It is Advanced Through The Sports World More Definitely and Surely

Journal and Guide Norfolk, Va. Sat. 10-11-47

The rise of Joe Louis and Jackie Robinson and the popularity they have attained, have reawakened my interest in the coming of the Kingdom of God. Long have we expected its arrival via the church and in its ministries. But I am beginning to wonder whether we may not just as well begin looking towards the athletic fields of this country. Race prejudice is the greatest evil in the life of the Twentieth Century man according to the late H. G. Wells. Whatever therefore undermines and destroys race prejudice hastens the coming of the coming of the Kingdom.

In the churches of the land race lines are drawn as tightly as they are in the social circles of society. The very ugly fact that some American white Baptists wrote ahead to intimidate the Norweigians in their relations with Negroes incident to the convention of the Baptist World Alliance is significant in this connection. Many of the lynchers and persecutors of Negroes are members of churches.

Bilbo was a Baptist as I have remarked before. So there is no guarantee that the church has any monopoly of the Kingdom's processes. We have within recent months witnessed one of the finest demonstrations of righteousness known to the Twentieth Century world. 10-11-47

* * * * *

The rise of oJe Louis and Jackie Robinson serve to show that the sports world has something to contribute to the Kingdom's coming. It is doubtful if there is in this country a minister who is proclaiming the Kingdom more surely than Branch Rickey and the millions who have abetted him in his dealing with Jackie Robinson.

The world's series has brought into dramatic focus the color question in this country. It has shown without and beyond a reasonable doubt that there are whites who are just hungry for an opportunity to show their colors for justice and righteousness.

According to my way of thinking they may have over-booseted Jackie on occasions. I have more than once feared that there was a subtle attempt to make a "bust" of him by their excessive boosting. We hope we were wrong in this. But whereas Joe Louis had a fight at great intervals and Buddy Young played only once a week, Jackie was in there everyday and the boy's fighting fettle and his consummate skill as a big league baseball player had focused the eyest of the world on him and the Negro race and the results have been all the heart could wish. There are reasons to believe that there were millions of whites in this country just waiting for a chance to give the Negro race a hand. The rise of Jackie gave this chance.

It is my firm belief that Brooklyn had as much business in a world series as this writer has conducting the Boston Symphony. The team as a baseball aggregation lacks about everything it takes to make a great team. Just how Brooklyn took glass-arm pitching, anemic batting and finicky fielding and won a National League pennant needs explaining. Journal and Guide

When Jackie told his mother to stop praying for him and pray for the Dodgers he had a point. These Dodgers were certainly "standing in the need of prayer" and when they can win a series game with one hit, they must have been getting prayers in plenty.

The fact is the Dodgers have found themselves by reason of playing, a Negro representing a cause. As a baseball aggregation they are the "Bums" they are so aptly called, but as representatives of a cause, they are invincible. It is my honest and studied opinion that Brooklyn has been bouyed into a National League pennant and into a World Series by sheer moral strength. It is difficult to explain their rise on any other theory. Norfolk, Va.

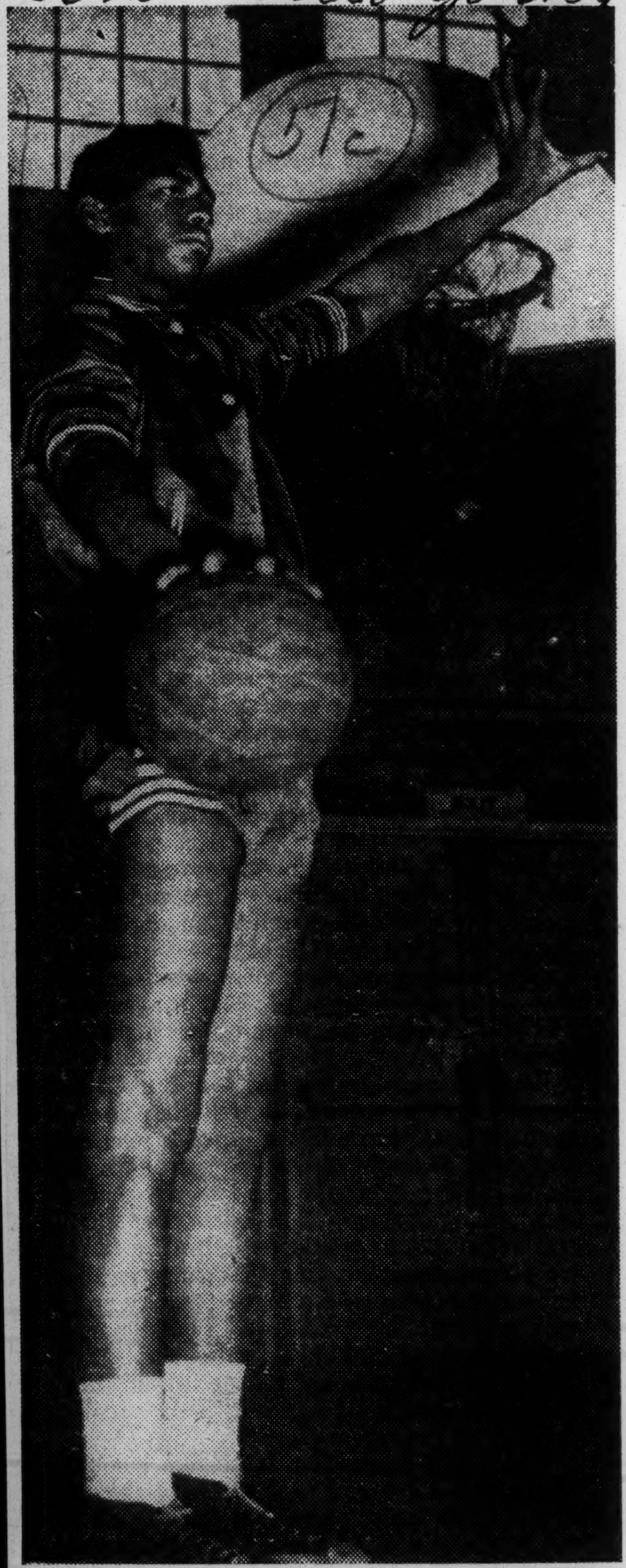
When a weak man gets a cause for which he can live and fight he becomes suddenly strong. Causes can make heroes out of cowards and titans out of weaklings. Brooklyn throughout the year has had the consciousness of knowing that they were doing a godly thing and it has made them strong. Sat. 10-11-47

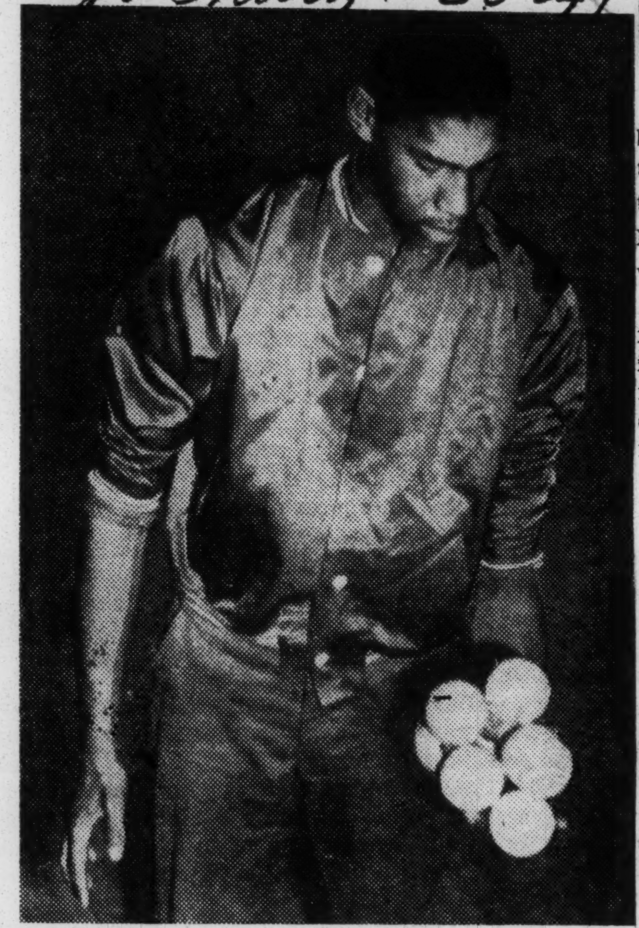
The Dodgers as baseball players are a pathetic lot, but as representatives of a righteous cause they gave the capable Yankees the fight of their lives. The Yankees have the baseball talent and the Dodgers have a great cause. Herein lies the explanation of the Dodgers performance in 1947!

51c 1947

# He Has Big Hand in Fort Dix Affairs

P.M. New York, N.Y. Thurs. 1-30-47





**SGT. JUNIUS KELLOGG,** who has scored an an average of 17 points per game for the Ft. Dix basketball team during the past two seasons, will give LIU a handful of trouble tomorrow when he gets his hands full of basketballs on the Blackbirds' home court. Junius can hold a basketball in each hand and can grab nine baseballs at once. He'll be limited to one ball at a time tomorrow.

PM New York, N.Y. Thurs. 1-30-47

# Robinson Leads Labor Scorers

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

With a terrific average of over 26 points a game, Herbie Robinson of the league-leading Fur Floor 125 team leads the scorers in the Labor League tourney, latest figures reveal.

51c Thurs 2-6-47

The crack Negro hoopster has hit for 80 points in three games, missing a fourth because of illness. He is closely followed by Mark Goroff of the American Youth for Democracy, who has accounted for 73 points in five games.

Tonight's games pit Railroad Mail Association against Emerson UE at Central Needles High and Brooklyn Postoffice Clerks against University UE at Brooklyn Tech High at 6:30 p. m.

Tomorrow's paper will carry the results of Wednesday night's games, the league standings and week-end schedule.

★

**THE 10 LEADING SCORERS**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Robinson, 125** | **80** |
| **Goroff, AYD** | **73** |
| **Minter, Shoe** | **59** |
| **Gevisenhelt, FJB** | **44** |
| **Murtha, TWU Air** | **40** |
| **Schmais, AYD** | **36** |
| **Hirsch, Fur JC "A"** | **35** |
| **Dona, Emerson UE** | **34** |
| **De Zinno, Air TWU** | **34** |
| **Johnson, Fur A** | **32** |

# Indianan Brags About Negro Basketball Star

The Worker New York, N.Y.

51c

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 26, 1946.

Mr. Lester Rodney
The Worker
Dear Rodney: Sun. 1-5-47

As a resident for many years of Anderson, Ind.—which is to say a dyed-in-the-wool basketball fan—I must ask you to cease cultivating your Garden for a moment and lend an ear to a beautiful story known the length and breadth of Hoosierdom, but not yet to the nation. I mean the story of Jumpin' Johnny Wilson.

There is not a child in the smallest Hoosier crossroads who could not tell you who John Wilson is, for the fact he is just about the greatest player ever developed in Indiana. An astounding statement! Yet the record bears it out.

To get the news somewhere near the lead—figures published this week reveal Wilson, freshman center at Anderson College, leads all state college scorers with 185 points, his nearest competitor having 151. And a few nights back the lithe Negro youth scored 30 points while his hitherto unheralded school was dropping a 68-65 decision to vaunted North Carolina State. But let's tell it as it should be told.

**Like it or not—I like it, and I've seen those Garden games too—basketball to the people out here still means high school basketball, and above all the annual state high school tournament in which more than 700 teams participate. If you don't know, I can't describe it.**

Well, it was in 1944 that the people of Anderson—an auto workers town which yields to none in basketball madness—discovered that unto them a star was born. Sophomore Johnny Wilson was all-state that year, as the Anderson Indians came down to the state semi-final game before being eliminated.

Sun. 1-5-47

**THE FOLLOWING YEAR,** the team led everybody's poll. But in the tournament something went wrong, one of those things, and "little Danville"—that's the way it must be said — put Anderson out in an early round.

Came 1945. All season Wilson's performances were the talk of the state, but the pickers had had their fingers burned, and going into the tournament they chose everybody else. But the Anderson boys poured it on, and they came down to the final game against Fort Wayne Central before some 14,000 raging fans.

Let me pause and reconstruct The game was a bad one for Bilbo whichever way it went. Besides Wilson, Anderson had another Negro player, John Coch-

ran at guard, while the Fort Wayne team was about fifty-fifty, led by the sensational Negro guard, Bob Milton.

Fort Wayne was known for the fastest break in the state, but that night Jumpin' John & Co. outfastbreaked 'em to win by 67-54 and carry home the trophy. Wilson scored 30 points in the game, After a grueling afternoon victory over Evansville Central, pre-tourney favorites. He and white forward Bob Ritter did a bunny-hug up and down the floor when it was over.

The statistics boys got busy on the last-four-game total, which is what we go by. The previous record, set in 1941, was 69 points. Milton had broken it by canning 79. And Wilson had double-broken it by scoring 85! Numerous other records had also fallen by the wayside.

**And so John Wilson was voted "Mr. Basketball of 1946," and was the cinch No. 1 choice for the Indiana All-Star aggregation which met and defeated the Kentucky All-Stars in June. The Hoosiers were behind at the half in that superlative contest, but after the intermission Wilson broke loose and that was all for the Kentuckians. He led the scoring and it must be added that no slightest sign of racial friction was displayed in this game between the two banks of the Ohio.**

*

**RIGHT HERE** let me describe Wilson's play. He is not one of your beanpoles—stands an even 6 feet—but a splendidly coordinated, natural-born athlete who is the personification of timing and grace. His specialty is the tip-in, and he does it in a way to bring tears to the spectator's eyes.

He is also a great floorman who covers both baskets and on the high school team brought the ball down on the fast break. A thorough team-player, with complete control and at the same time the audacity and extra heart that makes champions. And withal, so modest and good-tempered that a more popular player never lived.

His nickname, "Jumpin' Johnny," was won on the hardwood court where he outjumps players half a foot taller, but he was also for two years the state high jump champion. He ran third in the state 100-yard dash last spring, led off the winning half-mile relay squad, and powered his high school to state track titles in 1945 and 1946. In football he played end.

**After all this, one of the biggest questions in Hoosierdom last summer was: "Where will John Wilson go to college? (The Army had him tagged for a while, but appears to have relaxed its grasp, let us hope.) It has never been revealed, but might as well, that arrangements were completed for both Wilson and Bob Milton to enter Indiana University. I. U. would then proceed to break down the lily-white "gentleman's" agreement which prevails in Big Nine basketball.**

These arrangements involved the highest officials of the state of Indiana, as well as the highest officials of the University, it was reported. When somebody remarked "Of course, he'll have to make good," the others present just laughed. Sun. 1-5-47

But something went wrong. Wilson won't say what it was—won't talk about it at all. (It was also reported he might enroll in Toledo University.) Instead, he signed up at the home-town college.

**ANDERSON College is a denomination institution of the Church of God. There is an atmosphere of sincere Christianity about it; its interracial policy is outstanding. Students of this humble school are taught, for religious reasons to oppose racial discrimination. Does that hold part of the answer?**

Sincerely,

**JOSEPH L. BRIDGES.**

## Champs by Crum

Time Chicago, Ill.

In Allentown, Pa. the natives said it in the old Pennsylvania Dutch way: "It wonders [mystifies] me." In the city's only public high school, a dozen drum majorettes strutted up & down the gym. The 40-piece school band blared away. Allentown's basketball team, unconquered in three years, was in step as usual: down went rival Weatherly, 62-33. Mon. 2-10-47

So long as Allentown kept marching (it had won 60 straight), there was no argument about which of the 16,000 high-school teams was the nation's best. Coach Jay Birney Crum's champions were no accident; he had simply brought collegiate production-line tactics down to the high-school level.

**"I Get 'em Younger."** Step A was organizing a farm system. Says Birney Crum: "If you start a boy from scratch in high school, he's ready to graduate just about the time he's learning to play. . . . I get 'em younger." He controls basketball in the city's seven elementary schools

B. J. Oram

Time Chicago Ill. Mon. 2-10-47

ALLENTOWN'S COACH CRUM & TEAM

*After Weatherly, a perfect 60.*

where Crum-trained coaches spot likely kids. Coach Crum is also director of Allentown's 17 summer playgrounds, where basketball courts are standard equipment. "Any time I come across a promising stringbean," says he, "I just naturally bring him along."

By the time a Crum protégé reaches Allentown High, he should know the coach's system of "give-and-go" and "flooding the center-lane." Crum shows motion pictures to illustrate new plays, takes his players to Philadelphia to watch topnotch college teams. Before every game, a scout (who works at it full time) reports on the rival team's good & bad points. Last season 35,000 fans crammed into Allentown's gym to watch Crum's team go. Time Chicago Ill.

At 48, Jay Birney Crum is the most esteemed of Allentown's 96,904 citizens. When his boys copped the Pennsylvania state basketball championship two years ago, the city gave him a $1,000 war bond and a watch. His gift for repeating last year: a new car. Mon. 2-10-47

Prize protégé on this season's squad is ham-fisted Center Bill Wanish, who can hold a basketball in each hand palms down. In last week's game, Bill made 15 points. His No. 1 helper is Negro Elmo Jackson (ten points), a lightning-fast forward. Both Wanish and Jackson were regulars on Allentown's tricky T-formation football team, also coached by Crum, which has also won the Pennsylvania state championship for the past two year

51c 1947 General

## READY FOR C. C. N. Y. CONTEST WITH AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

Left to right: Lionel Malamed, Sid Trubowitz, Sonny Jameson, Hilty Shapiro, Everett Finestone, Irwin Dambrot and Joe Galiber, who will be seen Saturday at the Sixty-ninth Regiment Armory. The New York Times

# Negro Hoopsters Star Despite Big 9

By Bill Mardo

NEGRO HOOPSTERS have contributed as much to the great and wildly popular game of basketball as the powers that be have allowed them to. So if it's a fact that Negroes aren't as numerous on the collegiate court circuit as they are in track, football, etc., it's only because of the ridiculous situation in the Big Nine.

**Now the Big Nine midwestern conference has long been the cradle of the greatest Negro athletes, and yet for an unwritten Jimcrow ban there hasn't ever been one Negro on the Big Nine quints. Why this hypocritical policy by the Conference moguls, is hard to fathom—if only for the fame Negro athletes have brought to Big Nine gridirons and cinder paths.**

Certainly this vicious ban is something for the democratic students of the midwest to bang away at—but hard.

★

Let's briefly trace the history of Negro hoopsters in the East and elsewhere. Johnny Johnson was the first Negro courtman at Columbia in 1919. Maynard Garner starred for the Hamilton hoopsters of Gotham town, as did a lad named Dash who cut quite a figure for City College in those days. Several years prior, Wilbur Woods held down a varsity slot on the Nebraska quints of 1908, '09, and '10. The famed all-around star, Charley Drew, did as much for Amherst on the basketball floor as he did on the grid and track paths. At democratic Oberlin College, the two Barnes brothers, Jimmy and Sam, were on the 1928-30 squads. And Fenwick Watkins, it will be recalled, captained the Vermont five in 1908.

**Of the four letters Paul Robeson earned at Rutgers, one was for his sterling work at center for the 1917-18-19 basketball teams.**

•

**GEORGE GREGORY** is a name remembered by all court fans. After captaining the DeWitt Clinton High School quintets to city championships in 1926 and '27, and being a certain selection on the All-City team, Gregory moved on to Columbia where he really brought the house down with his phenomenal court genius.

**Gregory, in his senior year, captained one of the greatest Columbia fives in history—a team which copped the Eastern crowns in seasonal tourneys in 1930 and 1931. The Negro star was an honor selection on Knute Rocke's All-American College team for 1930, and made many of the All-American court teams in 1931.**

•

**SIDAT SINGH'S name is legend at Syracuse not alone for his tremendous football talent. This memorable Negro athlete, killed in the war, was almost equally as good at basketball. He hit for 20 points against Penn in 1938 play, coming within one tally of tying the then all-time scoring high for an individual player at the Pennsylvania Palestra Arena.**

The next season Singh was a key cog in Syracuse's sensational 14-game winning streak.

**DOLLY KING of 37-'41 LIU fame, was another of the widely renowned Negro hoopsters of recent times. This handsome, beautifully built center who also played football, is rated by Coach Clair Bee as one of his finest prodigies.**

•

**LET'S QUICKLY** review some of the other fine Negro courtmen of modern times. CCNY's Claude Phillips was a tremendous forward who made All-City, and was one of Nat Holman's high scoring aces on the 1941 and '42 clubs—the former which crashed the National Invitation Tourney, beat Western Kentucky, and finally lost by two points to the powerful Baumholtz-led Ohio quintet which in turn bowed to LIU in the finals.

Also around in those days were Bob Yancy and Ben Franklin who made the Boston U.'s varsity. Larry Bleach of Detroit and Jim Coward who played first at Brooklyn College and then NYU, were also outstanding hoopsters of the late 30's.

**As was a high-scoring phenom named Jackie Robinson of UCLA, or didn't you know?**

**SONNY JAMESON AND JOE GALIBER** are names familiar to any follower of this year's CCNY five. Jameson's terrific speed and uncanny eye drew rave notices from the scribes in his '45 freshman year—as did Galiber for his suprising jump from an obscure sub to the sparkplug of Holman's first team this season.

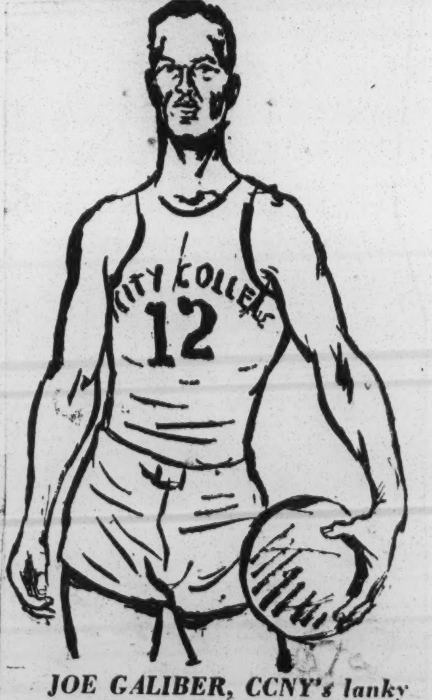
Holman, incidentally, is promising great things for Dave Williams, an 18-year old Negro freshman whom you'll hear from next year.

•

**THE UNBEATEN and democratic Duquesne team which brooked no Jimcrow demands from Tennesse U., has on its squad one of the national's aces, Charley Cooper. Don Barksdale and Davage Minor are sparking for this year's UCLAns on the Pacific Coast, and Minor was quite a figure for Toledo before switching to the California school. On the great Toledo team of 1939, Messrs. Nash and Simmons created quite an impression when they came into the Garden that year.**

LIU's little Eddie Younger, a peppery hustler of wartime years, is now starring with the Rennaissance club of pro immortality. And what review of Negro hoopsters would be complete without mentioning those same Rennies—scintillating demons of the play-for-pay courts with their immortals like Fat Jenkins, Pappy Ricks, George Fial, Pop Gates, Hilty Slocum, Zack Anderson, et al!

**Egad, what a club that was!**




*JOE GALIBER, CCNY's lanky sparkplug.*

# National Basketball League Drops All Negro Players

Journal and Guide 10-18-47
Norfolk, Va.

NEW YORK, N. Y. — (ANP) — National Basketball league is going to start this year minus colored players. Last year, among its 200 players, the league boasted two outstanding Negroes, William "Dolly" King and William "Pop" Gates. The other professional leagues discriminated against Negro players. Sat 10-18-47

King was with the championship Rochester team at a salary of $7,500 which with other guarantees netted the former Long Island University player close to $10,000.

Gates was with Buffalo at an unreported sum. But when Buffalo folded, its players and franchise were taken up by the Tri-Cities Black Hawks, playing out of Illinois.

**GATES IN FIGHT**

Later in the season, in the championship fight, Gates was the chief character in a battle involving Syracuse players, and "Chick" Meehan, on whom Syracuse counted heavily to carry it to the championship, ended in a hospital where he was a 10-day patient.

Indignation ran high at the time, and action was demanded by the club's officials. They wanted Gates banned, but the outstanding colored player remained with the team through the season. Norfolk, Va.

What precipitated the short vicious fight—all too onesided since Meehan landed on the floor after one devastating wallop from usually easy-going Gates — has never been revealed. But it is believed that Meehan was using the usual epithet in his remarks. Gates wouldn't take it and as a result, Meehan was lost to his team for 10 crucial days and Rochester went on to win handily. Journal and Guide

In King's case, it may be that Rochester owners did not re-sign the noted colored athlete because it had been widely rumored that all was not harmony on the Rochester squad. There was resentment against King. He played throughout the entire season and into the playoffs, however without incident. Upstate New York, extremely anti-Semitic, is also not without prejudice against nonwhites. Sat. 10-18-47

King enoyed a spectacular, profitable athletic career and was the first colored basketball player to reap any of the big cash paid out by the National Legue teams. Besides playing basketball for cash, King has also been a member of the Long Island Indians in the American association, leaving them to play with another team in Staten Island. He is a former member of the Renaissance and played with the Washington Bears

51d 1947

# CYO Teams Ask End Of Bowling Jimcrow

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

**Fifteen hundred young bowlers belonging to all 200 Catholic Youth Organization teams in Brooklyn have petitioned the American Bowling Congress to end discrimination against Negroes. The resolution was passed unanimously and sent to the ABC by Rev-** erend Charles W. Carow, CYO representative in the met area.

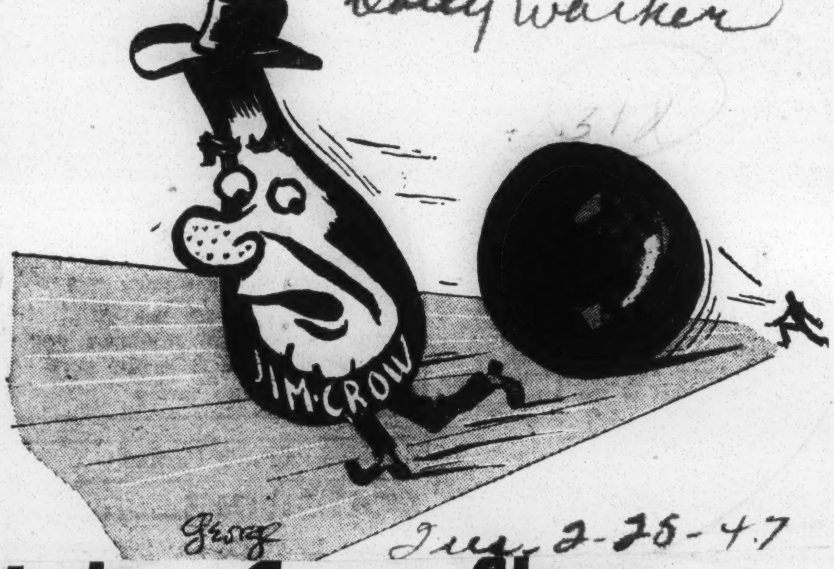
The CYO bowlers pointed out that the "White Male Only" clause in the ABC constitution was contrary to the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of New York, the New York State Law Against Discrimination, the New York State Civil Rights Law

Tues. 2-25-47

The ABC was urged therefore to amend its constitution **"so that any and all provisions contained therein restricting membership on their bowling teams to white males and excluding colored males thereform, be eliminated, and in their place be substituted a provision opening membership to all males regardless of their race, color or national origin."**

The Jimcrow policy of the ABC has been under increasing fire since the end of the war. The United Auto Workers have served notice on the ABC that all its union local teams will withdraw from the ABC if the "white only" clause is not eliminated

Daily Worker




Tues. 2-25-47

# Labor Court Show To Fite ABC Jimcrow

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

Thurs. 2-27-47

A terrific quadruple-header involving the top Labor teams has been scheduled for this Saturday night with all proceeds going to fight Jimcrow in bowling. The games will inaugurate the Labor Sports Federation drive to help bring about the end of discrimination by the ABC. The LSF, with 200 union locals actively participating in its sports program, has "no discrimination" as one of its most prominent planks.

The games, part of the regular LSF tourney are "naturals" between evenly matched teams. American Youth for Democracy's speedy youngsters, who have won 5 and lost 2, take on the Transport Workers Union Air Local, which has the same winning record. The rejuvenated Furriers Joint Council A team, which also has 5-2, collides confidently with the unbeaten terrors of the league, Fur Floor 125, with 7 straight. Emerson's UE, 6-2, tackles Macy's 2-5, and Furriers Joint Board, tied for the lead with 7-0, tackles the improved Joint Council B team, 4-3.

The games will take place in the two spacious Seward Park High School gyms. Admission will be 50 cents to season ticket holders.

Thurs 2-27-47

# Louise Horton Takes NBA Women's Singles Honors

Chicago Defender, Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 5-17-47

CLEVELAND—Chicago bowlers came through with but one championship, the women's singles, which was won by Louise Horton, in the sixth annual national championships of the National Bowling Association. The tournament was rolled on two week ends, April 18, 19, 20 and April 25, 26, 27. However, it took the tournament committee until May before they could total up and submit the official standings of individual, doubles and team results.

Jean Winbon, Chicago, placed fifth in the women's singles. She carried off high game honors with 215. She doubled with Hattie Sellers to take second high game in the women's doubles and the same two placed second in the women's doubles with 1,110.

* * *

**TONI TAYLOR,** Chicago Defender's bowling expert, and Daisy Glenn, both of Chicago, won third place in the women': doubles. E. Hudson and H. Ateman, Chicago, were seventh. The Hudson-Ateman combination rolled third high game.

The men's singles was won by Andrew Sharpe of Indianapolis. Lloyd Calloway, Chicago Defender linotype operator and former Hampton Institute athlete, topped the list of Chicago entries by taking seventh place with 610.

Bob Robinson, Chicago, placed second in his quest for high singles honors.

Five-man team championship was won by the Cleveland Termites with Detroit's Friar's Ale in second place and the Henry C. Taylors of Chicago in third position.

Sat. 5-17-47

Bill House's Termites of Chicago was second in the women's five-man event with the Factory Furniture of Cleveland topping the women's teams with 2,558.

Richard Williams and Calvin Thomas, Philadelphia, walked off with top money in the men's doubles and the same pair took the high doubles prize.

Sat. 5-17-47

**MEN'S TEAM EVENT**

| | | | TP | Prize |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Termites | Cleveland | 2891 | $250 |
| 2. | Friar's Ale | Detroit | 2834 | 150 |
| 3. | H. C. Taylor | Chicago | 2824 | 125 |
| 4. | Porter Cleaners | Detroit | 2760 | 100 |
| 5. | Log Cabin | Cleveland | 2700 | 75 |
| 6. | Mason's Farm | Cleveland | 2697 | 50 |
| 7. | Dr. Powell Johnson | Detroit | 2694 | 30 |
| 8. | Cotton Club | Indianapolis | 2692 | 30 |
| 9. | Woodlawn Alcumes | Chicago | 2660 | 20 |
| 10. | Sewell Bros. | Chicago | 2659 | 20 |
| 11. | P. O. Ten Pins | Chicago | 2644 | 20 |
| 12. | Tate's All Stars | Chicago | 2644 | 20 |
| 13. | Columbus A. C. | Columbus | 2619 | 20 |
| 14. | Bob's Tire Supply Shop | Chicago | 2609 | 20 |
| 15. | Peyton's Barber Shop | Columbus | 2605 | 20 |
| 16. | Palmer Bowl | Detroit | 2598 | 20 |
| 17. | Ohio Cab | Toledo | 2594 | 20 |

**TEAM HIGH GAME**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Friar's Ale | Detroit | 1001 | $ 50 |
| 2. | Termites | Cleveland | 997 | 25 |
| 3. | Log Cabin | Cleveland | 995 | 15 |
| 4. | H. C. Taylor | Chicago | 991 | 10 |

**MEN'S DOUBLES**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Richard Williams-Cal. Thomas | Philadelphia | 1200 | $100 |
| 2. | F. Davis-W. Rhodman | Detroit | 1206 | 75 |
| 3. | W. Brown-Sea Ferguson | Indianapolis | 1195 | 50 |
| 4. | Wm. Gooch-Andrew Sharpe | Indianapolis | 1176 | 40 |
| 5. | R. McCombs-I. Thurman | Indianapolis | 1165 | 30 |
| 6. | Chas. Bedell-Roy Strickland | Cleveland | 1158 | 25 |
| 7. | F. Jones-P. Jones | Chicago | 1137 | 20 |
| 8. | J. Clarke-John Wilson | Toledo | 1136 | 20 |
| 9. | W. Dennis-C. Hodo | Chicago | 1130 | 20 |
| 10. | J. Howard-H. Dufauchard | Chicago | 1125 | 15 |
| 11. | T. Washington-O. Houston | Chicago | 1125 | 15 |

**HIGH DOUBLES GAME**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Richard Williams-Cal. Thomas | Philadelphia | 464 | $ 20 |
| 2. | R. McCombs-I. Thurman | Indianapolis | 442 | 15 |
| 3. | Frank Davis-B. Rhodman | Detroit | 439 | 10 |

**MEN'S SINGLES EVENT**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Andrew Sharpe | Indianapolis | 623 | $100 |
| 2. | Sea Ferguson | Indianapolis | 622 | 50 |
| 3. | Floyd Foster | Detroit | 619 | 30 |
| 4. | Wm. Gooch | Indianapolis | 618 | 25 |
| 5 | R. Loatman | Wilmington, Del. | 617 | 20 |
| 6. | Geo. Bennett | Detroit | 611 | 15 |
| 7. | L. Galloway | Chicago | 610 | 15 |
| 8. | Wm. Elston | [illegible]d | 606 | 15 |

**HIGH SINGLES GAME**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Wm. Elston | Cleveland | 245 | $ 20 |
| 2. | Bob Robinson | Chicago | 244 | 15 |
| 3. | Tino Ravello | Chicago | 244 | 10 |

Sat. 5-17-47

**ALL EVENTS**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Roy Strickland | Cleveland | 1868 | $100 |
| 2. | Wm. Gooch | Indianapolis | 1802 | 50 |
| 3. | Frank Davis | Detroit | 1771 | 30 |
| 4. | Hank Payne | Cleveland | 1733 | 22.50 |
| 5. | W. Brown | Indianapolis | 1733 | 22.50 |
| 6. | Richard Williams | Philadelphia | 1730 | 15 |
| 7. | George Bennett | Detroit | 1717 | 15 |
| 8. | Isaac Thurman | Indianapolis | 1716 | 15 |

**WOMEN'S TEAM EVENT**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Factory Furniture | Cleveland | 2558 | $150 |
| 2. | House's Termites | Chicago | 2441 | 100 |
| 3. | Lee's Sensation | Detroit | 2414 | 75 |
| 4. | Sportree's Music Bar | Detroit | 2379 | 50 |
| 5. | Perkins' Bar | Cincinnati | 2372 | 25 |
| 6. | Log Cabin | Cleveland | 2313 | 25 |
| 7. | Bailey's Ice Cream | Detroit | 2291 | 25 |
| 8. | Regal Beauty Shop | Chicago | 2286 | 25 |
| 9. | Douglas Center | Toledo | 2269 | 25 |
| 10. | Porter's Cleaners | Detroit | 2268 | 25 |

**HIGH GAME**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Factory Furniture | Cleveland | 907 | $ 30 |
| 2. | House's Termites | Chicago | 843 | 22.50 |
| 3. | Lee's Sensation | Detroit | 843 | 22.50 |

**WOMEN'S DOUBLES**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | M. Webb-I. Baxter | Cincinnati | 1136 | $100 |
| 2. | J. Winbon-H. Sellers | Chicago | 1110 | 50 |
| 3. | T. Taylor-D. Glenn | Chicago | 1040 | 30 |
| 4. | F. Johnson-E. Richardson | Detroit | 1033 | 30 |
| 5. | G. Chestnut-M. Smith | Indianapolis | 1025 | 15 |

**WOMEN'S SINGLES**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Louise Horton | Chicago | 561 | $ 60 |
| 2. | Ecee Richardson | Detroit | 558 | 30 |
| 3. | Doris Miller | Cleveland | 557 | 20 |
| 4. | Gladys Chestnutt | Indianapolis | 551 | 15 |
| 5. | Jean Winbon | Chicago | 545 | 15 |

Sat. 5-17-47

**HIGH GAME**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Jean Winbon | Chicago | 215 | $ 25 |
| 2. | Isabel Baxter | Cincinnati | 212 | 12.50 |
| 3. | Mary Wise | Newark | 212 | 12.50 |

**WOMEN'S ALL EVENTS**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Isabel Baxter | Cincinnati | 1732 | $ 60 |
| 2. | Doris Miller | Cleveland | 1704 | 30 |
| 3. | Gladys Chestnutt | Indianapolis | 1645 | 20 |
| 4. | Faye Johnson | Detroit | 1615 | 15 |
| 5. | Daisy Glenn | Chicago | 1550 | 15 |

*Resent Jim-Crow Rule*

51d

Courier

# Bowlers Refuse to Bow to Prejudice

Pittsburgh Pa.

Sat-10-11-47

NEW YORK—(ANP) — Some-
:ing new was added here when a
gorous protest was made by the
nerican Legion and Jewish War
eteran posts in Yonkers, who
ere disgusted over the rule held
the American Bowling Con-
ess which bars Negroes from
mbership. The constitution of
e American Bowling Congress,
cording to its authorities, lim-
s membership to "the white male
ex."

The rule by the ABC which was
ted in 1895, has somewhat over a million bowlers. In 1946, according to John Hilbert, Eastern branch manager of the league, a request was made by Hawaii asking that brown and yellow races be permitted to compete in tournaments. The Catholic Youth organization requested membership for Negroes. Both requests to have the constitution changed were turned down.

The amendment made at the April convention of the ABC in Los Angeles to admit Negroes was voted down by delegates representing clubs throughout the country.

51e 1947 Bantam

# Harold Dade, Former Defender Newsboy, Is World Bantam Champ

(5/2) Chicago Defender, Ill.

SAT.

By FAY YOUNG

Harold Dade, a former Chicago Defender newsboy, Bud Billiken club member, and son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Dade, 5425 Prairie ave., battered his way to the world bantamweight championship in San Francisco Monday night, Jan. 6. He whipped Manuel Ortiz.

Dade follows in the footsteps of George Dixon and Georgie Pace. Dixon, hero of a 70-round draw on Feb. 7, 1890 with Cal McCarthy in Boston, held three world championships—the flyweight, bantamweight and featherweight. He held the last named two twice. He was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, on July 29, 1870. 1-11-47

Pace was born in Cleveland, O., Feb. 2, 1916. He was named National Boxing Association's world bantamweight champion when Sixto Escobar retired in 1940. Lou Salica, New York Italian, fought Pace a draw in Toronto, Canada, on March 4, 1940 for the NBA title. Salica was recognized as the world champion by the New York and Pennsylvania State Athletic commissions. On Sept. 24, 1940, Salica won in 15 rounds for the world championship in New York City. He lost it in 1942 to Ortiz.

Dade becomes Chicago's first world champion since Barney Ross, a local fighter, won the world welterweight championship from Ceferino Garcia in 10 rounds in New York City. Ross, who had held the world lightweight championship in 1933 by defeating Tony Canzoneri in 10 rounds in Chicago on June 23, 1933, lost his title to Henry Armstrong in Long Island Bow, New York, May 31, 1938.

Joe Louis, the world heavyweight champion, lived in Detroit when he won his championship in 1937 and is registered as still living in that city when he fights although Louis has business interests in both Chicago and Detroit and his ex-wife, Marva Trotter Barrow, makes her home here. The couple have one child, a daughter, who lives with the mother.

Dade, as a youngster, could be found trudging into the Defender office every Friday for his papers. Sometimes his father would come for them in order that Harold could deliver to his customers after school. 1-13-47

Harold joined the Catholic Youth Organization nine years ago when he was 14. He attended the Saturday morning classes. Two years later he boxed in the CYO tournament as a representative of the Corpus Christi Parish, 49th and South Parkway. Dade lost his first six bouts but was encouraged to continue by Lou Radzienda, CYO athletic director.

In 1939, Dade won the CYO flyweight championship. He repeated in 1940.

He won the Chicago City and Chicagoland Golden Gloves flyweight championships in 1940 and in 1941 successfully defended his Chicagoland title. He was a member of the 1940, 1941 and 1942 Golden Gloves team that represented Chicago in the intercity New York vs. Chicago bouts.

HAROLD DADE

The new champion was born in Chicago. He is one of a family of seven children. The four sisters are Mrs. Josephine Humphrey, 826 North Hudson; Mrs. Dorothy Keyes 5439 Prairie ave.; Mrs. Vivian Harrell, 5425 Prairie ave., and Miss Gamalia Dade, 5425 Prairie ave. The two brothers are Robert Dade Jr., 5301 Prairie ave., and Walter Dade, 3701 Indiana ave.

**Attended DuSable High**

Dade attended DuSable high school in 1938 and 1939. He spent three years in the United States Marine corps, doing duty at Camp Lejeune, N. C. He was corporal with the 51st Defense Battalion USMC, and served from January to December, 1945, in the Marshall Islands, South Pacific. He was discharged in January, 1946. On May 12, last he married Miss Thelma Cooper.

Harold's father works as a trucker for the Same Day Cleaners. He expects his son home after the return match with Ortiz. This is now scheduled for March 4.

Dade has never fought as a pro in Chicago. He left the amateur ranks after his Marine discharge.

# Bell Drops Decision Bout To Jake LaMotta

*Atlanta Daily World — Tues 3-18-47*
*Atlanta, Ga.*

NEW YORK — (NNPA)—Tommy Bell, Youngstown, Ohio, welterweight, giving away a 9¾ pounds weight advantage, made a gallant stand but lost a unanimous decision to Jake LaMotta, Bronx middleweight, in Madison Square Garden Friday night.

In the first round LaMotta pumped both fists to Bells body and then sent a left hook to the jaw that knocked Bell through the ropes and onto the apron of the ring. At the count of seven, Bell was up on his feet and at the end of the round he had Jake in trouble with a vicious right and left to the head.

Bell outboxed LaMotta in the second, third and fourth rounds, countering cleverly with stiff rights, jabbing and moving. LaMotta took the fifth, sixth and seventh with a savage body attack.

**BELL COUNTERS**

Bell' counter attack and clever maneuvering earned him the eighth and ninth, but near the end of the ninth LaMotta had Bell in trouble. LaMotta went after Bell in the 10th after Bell had stunned him with a right to the chin. He drove a succession of lefts to the body. Tommy, retreating, tripped and fell through the ropes, but regained his feet at the count of four. LaMotta's savage attack in this round sealed the decision.

Harry Ebbets, referee and Jack O'Sullivan, judge, each scored seven rounds for LaMotta, two for Bell and one round even. Frank Forbes, judge, scored five rounds for each and gave the decision to LaMotta by six points to five.

A crowd of 17,108 paid a gross gate of $87,348 to see the fight.

LaMotta weighed 161 pounds to Bell's 151¼.

The fight was the third between the pair, and the third triumph for LaMotta.

# Tommy Bell KO's Jackie Wilson

*Afro-American*
*Baltimore, Md.*

LOS ANGELES (NPB)—Tommy Bell, making his first coast appearance in a whirlwind campaign to get another shot at Ray (Sugar) Robinson, and the welterweight championship of the world, scored a 4th round kayo over California Jackie Wilson before a crowd of 9,000 fans at the Olympic Auditorium here Tuesday night. *Sat. 4-26-47*

Bell, in winning, had to show plenty of class and at that, be on the inside of luck. The fight was a savage affair from the opening gong.

In the third, Bell dropped Wilson for a count of nine with a hard right smash to the jaw. Wilson, after weathering the storm, sent a crashing right to the jaw of Bell, dropping him for a count of eight.

Bell managed to clutch and hold while he floundered about. He came back in the fourth round to beat Wilson to a try of knockout intended rights, to stop him cold in the early stages of the round. *Sat. 4-26-47*

# Tommy Bell Drops Bout to Heavier Steve Belloise

*Afro-American Baltimore, Md*

## Youngstown Welterweight Concedes 11 Pounds, Takes Bad Beating

NEW YORK (NNPA) — With an 11-pound weight advantage, Steve Belloise, white Branx Middleweight, hammered out a ten-round unanimous decision over Tommy Bell, Youngstown, Ohio, welterweight, at Madison Square Garden Friday night.

Belloise scored two knockdowns for no counts in the second and ninth rounds, knocked Bell half through the ropes in the latter round, and came on in the last two rounds to do everything to Bell but stop him. *Sat. 12-27-47*

Bell's prestige suffered little in absorbing terrific punishment from his heavier opponent and he remains the No. 1 contender for Ray Robinson's title. At times he gave Belloise boxing lessons and was always willing to trade punches with his heavier foe. *12-27-47*

*Rivals Slip Often*

Referee Eddie Joseph voted eight rounds to Belloise to two for Bell. Judge George LeCron gave Belloise seven to three for Bell, and Judge Jim Hagen voted six rounds to Belloise, three to Bell and on even.

Both fighters had difficulty staying on their feet. They were constantly slipping. Bell started as if he would give Belloise a boxing lesson. He measured Belloise with long left jabs and cuffed him around soundly. But Belloise sent a stiff hard right to the head that slowed Bell up.

A right to the jaw floored Bell in the second. But Bell's jabs and hooks kept hi mclose to Belloise through the sixth round. From the weight began having its effects on Bell, and in the last rounds of the fight the Ohioan took terrific punishment. After weathering the ninth, he went out in tenth to go the distance.

Belloise weighed 159½ to Bell's 148½.

## 'TIMID JIMMY' GROWS UP

# Jimmy Bivins Learned How to Fight Because Cleveland Kids Made Him

Afro-American Baltimore, Md Sat. 6-14-47

By RUFUS WELLS

BALTIMORE

If the neighborhood kids in Eastside Cleveland hadn't been so hard on a newcomer to their community, Jimmy Bivins probably would not be fighting professionally today.

But the boys were tough and "timid Jimmy," as he was then called, found that Cleveland was unlike his birthplace, Macon, Ga., in more than one respect.

Determined to defend himself against attacks that seemed to come from every child he met, Jimmy became interested in boxing and has been fighting ever since. Sat. 6-14-47

Having mastered the fundamentals, the manly art so fascinated Bivins that he launched his career as a mediocre welterweight among the amateurs and ended up with the top pro heavies.

Today, at 28, "timid Jimmy" rates himself as fourth in line for a crack at the crown now resting, somewhat securely, on the brow of Champion Joe Louis.

Lounging in this York Hotel room in Baltimore, shortly before he scored his second-round kayo over the ambitious Cuban, Omelio Agramonte, Bivins gave his version of the heavyweight situation today.

**Rates Self Fourth**

"I rate Jersey Joe Walcott as logical contender with Ezzard Charles second and Elmer (Violent) Ray, third; myself fourth and Tami Mauriello fifth.'

Jimmy's ring history shows many ups and downs. Crowned "duration champion' by Joe Louis, himself, Bivins reigned as logical contender until a series of defeats pushed him down the ladder.

**How Come Tmai?**

By a strang quirk, peculiar to the prize fight game, Bivins holds two victories over Tami Mauriello, the Bronx Italian who was considered worthy of a shot at the Louis bauble last September.

Although puzzled by the choice of Tami, Bivins said he accepted the thing philosophically and decided to go on, just waiting.

Now keenly aware of his paternal responsibilities, he is unusually thrifty for a man who says his earnings average $50,000 a year. Though constantly moving about the country, Jimmy thinks constantly of the future of his three children, Raymond, 8; James Jr., 6, and Barbara, 5.

During the war he worked in a Cleveland lumber plant and later served as a physical training instructor in the Army Air Forces with the rank of private.

**Likes to Study**

A high school graduate, Jimmy studies considerably and is an amateur photographer. He neither smokes nor drinks alcoholic beverages but indulges heavily in his favorite candy bar, Baby Ruth.

When interviewed the Cleveland fighter sported a two-tone beige sport shirt, grey tweed trousers, maroon socks with small grey stripes. Sat. 6-14-47

Loose-fitting, tailor-made sport clothes, he says, are his favorite.

Babe Dunning, himself quite a fighter during his day, is now trainer and traveling companion of Bivins. Being married and having the same number of children as Jimmy, Babe also has common likes and hobbies. They spend much spare time watching movies and stage shows.

**Owns Home, Car**

Bivins owns his home in Cleveland and drives a $2,500 Chrysler New Yorker.

Now that certain emotional disturbances, brought on by marital difficulties, have been quelled "timid Jimmy" is seeking to regain his place as the logical challenger of Louis.

If the hard-hitting Clevelander captures the coveted heavyweight crown, many old-time Eastside residents can proudly tell their children that they used to beat Jimmy Bivins twice a day, once as he went to school and again while he was on his way home.

51e

# Moore Defeats Bivins by TKO in Stiff Balto. Brawl

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

## Title Contender Begs Referee to Stop Fight After Going Down Twice in Ninth Frame

By FRED LEIGH 9-20-47

Archie Moore, slowed up considerably by a sweltering temperature, came from behind with a savage body attack to score a TKO over Jimmy Bivins in 2:06 seconds of the ninth in a scheduled ten, Monday night in the Fifth Regiment Armory here. Sat.

Before an estimated 10,000 shirt-sleeve audience, Moore, outweighted 10 pounds, 174½ to Bivins's 184½, appeared a spent fighter at the finish and was practically dragged to his corner. Bivins' 10 pound advantage plus the torrid heat played havoc with the elusive St. Louis fighter.

**Bivins Was Ahead**

With Bivins, a tough fighter from Cleveland's rugged eastside ahead after the seventh, the finish was a dramatic and colorful climax for the rapidly-tiring Moore.

Having cut Bivins's right eye with his sharp punching at long range, Moore, a 6-5 underdog, suddenly shifted his attack to Jimmy's body, and dropped him for a two count. Bewildered and hurt, Bivins arose slowly and backed into his own corner seeking protection and cover that wasn't to be found.

Moore, admittedly nursing a grudge from his previous fight with Bivins in Cleveland when he claimed he was hit while still down, battered the cornered Bivins with devasting lefts and rights.

**Grabbed Referee**

Visibly hurt and in agony, Bivins, the third ranking heavyweight contender for Joe Louis's crown sought refuge from the referee by draping his arms around his neck for support. He was shoved away. 9-20-47

Moore, bent on the kill, charged in a crouch like an enraged tiger and punched Bivins mercilessly around the body, causing him to crumble in his own corner.

Gaining his feet slowly after a short count, a glassy-eyed and astonished Bivins turned his back to his tormenter, and signaled he had had enough, and could not continue. Sat.

Shortly after Moore's hand was raised in triumph, he too collapsed, and had to be dragged to his corner, exhausted and out on his feet.

Later in his dressing room, Moore denied he had collapsed, but declared that his feet became entangled when he started for his corner.

Cynical handlers shooed all reporters from Bivins' dressing room, and refused to give out information regarding the Clevelander's condition.

**Heat Blamed**

Close friends leaving the dressing room reported he complained from pains in the stomach and dizziness, but felt that he would be all right. It was the heat more than anything else, was the general opinion.

However, no credit must be taken from Bivins. Using his 10-pound weight advantage, Bivins scored solid lefts to the head, and forged ahead on the infighting on sheer bull strength. Near the close of the sixth, Bivins dropped Moore to the canvas with a left hook at long range.

**Foul Claimed**

On one knee, Moore with his back to Bivins, motioned to the referee that he had been thumbed in the eye. With the referee ignoring Moore, Bivins advanced to take advantage of his helpless foe.

Fighting from a semi-crouch, always throwing a strong left hook, Bivins staggered and buckled Moore in the seventh, his final round before his dramatic exit.

On the AFRO's score sheet, Moore took four founds, Bivins, three, while two were even. Moore took the third, fourth, eighth and ninth, with Bivins credited with the fifth, sixth and the seventh, while the first two were evenly fought rounds.

Moore and Bivins entered the ring at 9:40 p.m., but were unable to proceed with the bout until 15 minutes later because an unruly crowd overflowed the aisles, and took over seats belonging to ringsiders.

Unable to handle the perspiring crowd, the policemen and firemen, after a futile attempt, gave up the task as a bad job.

51e 1947 England

# English Boxing Commission Changes Color Rule

Pittsburgh Courier Pa. Sa

51e

LONDON (ANP)—The stewards of the British Boxing Board of Control issued a statement this week which spells the end of a rule which has heretofore prohibited Negro fighters from becoming British boxing champions. The statement said, "The stewards have decided to modify the regulation which insists that championship contestants must be born of white parents." Sat 7-19-47

In the past boxing championships in England have been the exclusive privilege of white pugilists. There have been many excellent colored fighters in the history of the British ring, but none could aspire to hold the championship even though they beat the champion. In fact, they could not be a contestant in a regularly scheduled championship match.

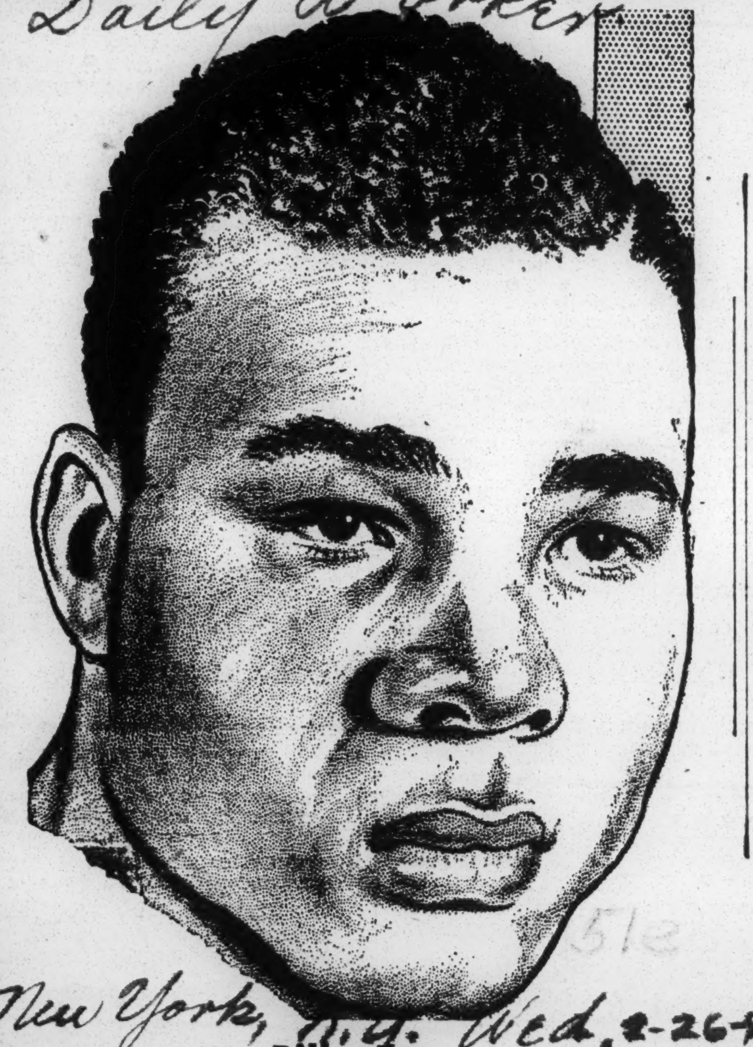
John Lewis, member of Parliament, became responsible for the change when he raised the question of the "color bar" in the House of Commons. He said, commenting upon the revision, "any change which will have the effect of raising the color bar in British boxing will meet with warm approval in government circles, particularly in view of Colonial Secretary Creech Jones' statement on the effect of the bar on inter-colonial relations."

The principal benefit to current colored boxers in England will fall apparently to the crack middleweight, Randolph Turpin. He was born here in England of a West Indian father and a white mother. He will now be eligible to fight for the championship when he is 21. Sat 7-19-47

Boxers from the West Indies or the Dominions are not expected to benefit unless the rule is broadened. This will eliminate such boxers as featherweight Cliff Anderson of British Guiana who meets Al Phillips for the Empire title at Olympic next Tuesday.

# Another Joe Louis?

Daily Worker



New York, N.Y. Wed. 2-26-47

**Billy Fox**

He looks like Joe Louis. He's coming along at the same age that Louis was when he first started tearing up the fistic pea-patch. He's had 43 fights, all ending with knockout wins; so he must hit with something of Joe Louis' force.

That's Billy Fox for you, a 21-year old Negro kid out of Philly who will be levelling his potent right hand on Gus Lesnevich's chin Friday night at the Garden. If Gus finishes up like all the other Fox victims, this new phenom will be the world's light-heavy king.

To carry the Fox-Louis comparison a bit further, the quiet kid owns the same type of broad sloping shoulders spread over a six-foot frame smoothly packed with 174 pounds of power.

And while Billy's unparalleled knockout record doesn't include any of the top men in the light-heavy division, he has belted out such husky gents as George Kochan and Nate Bolden. His two longest fights both came against middleweight Ossie "Bulldog" Harris, whom he twice kayoed in the tenth rounds.

Those who've seen the kid in action don't question his punching prowess, but argue that he possesses none of the boxing skill which supplemented Joe Louis' socking strength at a comparable stage of the Bomber's early career.

New York Wed. 2-26-47

But it should be remembered that even Joe Louis had things to learn as he ploughed through the heavy ranks in the late 30's.

Billy has drawn inspiration from the great Louis and while he's frank enough to admit he's not too anxious to meet Joe inside that squared circle, he would like to be the heavyweight champion of the world some day.

But he's got a big enough job on his hands in the person of mister Lesnevich.

Daily Worker Daily W.

# Billy Fox Misses First Ring Victory Out of 44 Starts

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

## Crowd of 18,000 Sees Philadelphian Bow to Gus Lesnevich in 10 Rounds

Sat. 3-8-47

NEW YORK—The undefeated ring career of Billy Fox, 21-year-old Philadelphia light-heavyweight, came to an abrupt ending here Friday night in Madison Square Garden, when for the first time in 43 consecutive bouts he failed to climb out of a ring victorious.

Billy lost his 44th bid for glory, which would have left him champion of the world in that division, as Gus Lesnevich, Cliffside, N.J., Russian, the current king, stopped him in two minutes 19 seconds of the tenth round of a scheduled 15-rounder.

The youthful Fox, who was just nine years of age when Lesnevich began his ring career, was the victim of too much experience and ring cunningness as his older foe, now 32, out-punched, out-jabbed and out-maneuvered him throughout the greater part of the battle.

**18,318 Witness Bout**

A crowd of 18,318 paid customers who contributed to a gross gate of $102,520 saw the champion left jab, right-cross and body-thump Fox into submission with both hands.

They sensed a short fight in the fifth when Lesnevich began taking the play away from Fox.

Fox weighed 172 pounds, Lesnevich shaded 175.

**Had Impressive Record**

The Philadelphian entered the ring a prohibitive favorite because of his impressive record in which he had stopped 41 previous challengers within 10 rounds in 41 bouts.

Ossie Harris went the distance in two bouts but was kayoed in the final round in each. Only three other of his opponents have lasted beyond the fourth round.

In stopping Fox, Lesnevich's victory recalled to many of the Garden fans the first Louis-Schmeling fight in which the Brown Bomber was temporarily halted in his march to the heavyweight throne by a 12-round kayo, the only one to spoil his all-time record. Sat. 3-8-47

**Natural Light-Heavy**

Fox is a natural light-heavyweight. He's no Joe Louis in the raw, but his experience with the cagey Lesnevich might see him move up in the division before summer time.

Fox is only 21. He has been boxing professionally since 1943 and his career was interrupted for 10 months while he served in the Army. This was his second Garden fight. He kayoed Freddy Flores here in one round in 1944. He fought twice in the St. Nicholas Arena and once in Baltimore. All other bouts have been in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

**Lesnevich a Veteran**

Lesnevich, likewise, spent close to four years in the Coast Guard. He has successfully defended his title three times since winning it in 1941.

He outpointed Tami Mauriella late in 1941, and last year knocked out Freddie Mills, British Empire champion in London in 10 rounds.

from every conceivable angle and he was helpless to protect himself, though he stayed up, refused to go down.

Referee Frankie stepped between them before the heat was half over, pushed Billy to his corner and lifted his hand to signal the end of the action.

## Eagin Warns Against 'Sham and Collusion'

NEW YORK—During weighing-in ceremonies Friday at noon, Chairman Eddie Eagin of the New York State Athletic Commission warned both Gus Lesnevich, the champion, and Billy Fox, challenger, against "sham and collusion."

His talk was based on reports that Lesnevich had been guaranteed $50,000 from Fox's representatives to meet the latter, and to make up the difference if Gus's 42½% of the net failed to reach the agreed sum.

The rumors were vigorously denied by Joe Vella, Gus's manager, and Frank Palermo, manager of Fox since he quit the amateur ranks as middleweight champion of the Middle Atlantic AAU. Sat. 3-8-47

# Jake LaMotta Kayoed; Quits Fight Game

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. Sat. 11-22-47

NEW YORK— (CNS)— Billy Fox wrote finis to the fistic career of Jake LaMotta Friday night when he kayoed the Bronx Bull in 2:26 of the fourth round. In a thoroughly dissappointing performance, Jake who had been considered a possible succesor to the world light heavyweight title now held by Gus Lesnerovich, proved truly on the down grade, a ready victim to Billy's murderous right hand. All along he practically asked for defeat with chin stuck out and available to Fox's punches. Then in the fatal fourth( to the tune of raucious cries from ring-siders, "stop the fight" the end came with a left from Billy which sent Jake to a neutral corner. Sat. 11-22-47

Boxing Commissioner Eddie Eagan believed that La Motta put up a sincere though sorry effort but has ruled out a return bout between LaMotta and Fox. Moreover, it is doubtful if LaMotta will be allowed to meet Bert Lytell, January 8th. His career appeared doomed because of the 22 year old Philadlphia Kid.

48th KAYO IN 49:

# Billy Fox Stops Kochan in N.Y. Garden Battle

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat-8-16-47

NEW YORK — Billy Fox, the Philadelphia thumper, scored his forty-eighth knockout in 49 starts at Madison Square Garden, Friday, belting out Georgia Kochan, white of this city, in 1:09 of the fourth round of a scheduled 10-rounder.

It was the Quaker City light-heavyweight's third win over Kochan, all of which were knockouts.

Georgia, one of the ring game's more courageous batlers, mixed it willingly in the first two rounds, landing frequently to the head and body of Fox. The latter, however, appeared undamaged by the blows. Fox went down in the second, but it was believed due more to a slip than to being hit.

Unleashing a two-fisted attack in the third, Fox had the former Akron barber in serious trouble in the late stages of the heat and it was because of his rare gameness that he was still on his feet at the bell.

**Referee Stops It**

As they resumed hostilities in the fourth, Fox again began belting his opponent with rights and lefts. Blows rained on Kochan

# Billy Fox Stops La Motta in 4th

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 11-22-47

NEW YORK, N.Y.—Billy Fox, 22-year-old light heavy weight of Philadelphia, scored a four-round knockout over Jake LaMotta of the Bronx at Madison Square Garden last Friday night before the largest crowd of the current indoor season.

Although he was decisively whipped by Fox, LaMotta managed to stay on his feet throughout the fight to preserve his reputation of never having been knocked down in the ring.

He accomplished this by clinging to the ropes and taking terrific punishment from Fox at times when he should have been on the floor and at other times by grabbing the vicious Fox around the waist and clinging to him while pushing him around the ring.

**Wins First Round**

LaMotta won the first round handily by battering Fox with hard rights about the ribs and mid section which he delivered after getting in under Fox's long reach, but in the second round he changed his tactics and became a target for Fox's left hand.

In the third, Billy caught La Motta with a right to the head which buckled his knees and indicated that it was the beginning of the end. LaMotta straightened up and was greeted by a two-hand barrage from Fox and at the end of the round Jake was grimacing with his arms at his sides.

**Terrific Beating**

Fox gave the Bronx Italian a terrific beating in the fourth round. He sent La Motta into a neutral corner with a hook to the jaw and then battered him unmercifully until Jake pushed his way out. Fox then beat him into a sitting position but LaMotta hung on and refused to go down.

Fox then tagged LaMotta with a right to the heart and another right chop made him sag again. He would have gone down but he grabbed Fox and pushed him against the ropes. 11-22-47

Fox next unleashed a flurry of blows on LaMotta and when Referee Frank Fullam stepped in to stop the fight LaMotta was a defenseless foe. The end came after two minutes and twenty - six seconds of the fourth. Sat.

Fox weighed 173¾; LaMotta, 167. A crowd of 18,340 paid $102,528 to see the fight.

# Chalks Up 50th Kayo In 51 Fights

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa
Sat. 11-22-47

NEW YORK CITY—Blasting Billy Fox opened up his long range guns here last Friday night before 18,340 roaring fans and bombed tough Jake LaMotta clearly out of the light-heavyweight picture after 2:25 of fighting in the fourth round. It was Billy's fiftieth knockout in fifty-one fights.

The Philadelphia youngster who looks like Joe Louis—and lays 'em among the sweet peas almost as effectively—never was able to get Jake off his determined feet. Billy hit him on the jaw with everything but an atomic bomb. The game kid from the Bronx who has never been floored, wavered and wobbled like a man who has had too many, slipped to one knee in the fourth, but managed to get up. Soon after, Referee Frankie Fullam saved LaMotta by stopping the slaughter and awarding Billy a well-earned technical knockout.

Fistic observers were deeply impressed by Fox's workmanship. He appears to be a highly improved fighter and earned another chance at the light-heavyweight title. His only loss was suffered last year when he tried to lift the toga from the capable head of Champion Gus Lesnevich. Sat. 11-22-47

His performance Friday night, however, was so good that he rates one more shot.

Hints of an alleged "fix" were quickly thrown out the window as soon as the fight started. Fox walked out and started firing lethal ammunition at LaMotta right away. He never stopped, either His crushing rights and ripping lefts made Jake a portrait of gore and by the middle of the third round the fans were convinced that he had no business in the ring with Philly's "Little Joe Louis."

"I've a complaint to make against that department!"

PM New York N.Y. Mon 12-29-47

# 'Ring' Picks Lesnevich As Fighter Of the Year

Despite the furore created by Jersey Joe Walcott's 15-round stand against champion Joe Louis a few weeks back, Editor Nat Fleischer of *The Ring* magazine today named Gus Lesnevich, light-heavyweight champion, "fighter of the year" in his 23d annual review of the world's boxers.

In a copyrighted article appearing in the current issue of his magazine, Fleischer gives Walcott credit for having been a "one-night sensation," but contends that Lesnevich, in coming back from a long hitch in the Navy and winning four important fights during 1947, did more than any other man "to improve the standing of the sport."

However, as balm to Walcott's myriad supporters, Fleischer gives the Camden veteran a set of "special awards." First, he has awarded Jersey Joe a medal for "an outstanding performance," and second, he has bracketed Walcott with Louis in Group 1 among the world's heavyweights. All the others are in Group 2.

***Zale vs. Graziano Fight of the Year***

His choice for "fight of the year" was the second Tony Zale-Rocky Graziano middleweight championship schap in Chicago. For "round of the year" Fleischer chose the fourth between Louis and Walcott, in which the challenger sat Louis down for a count of seven.

Of all the world's champions, Fleischer rates only two as being sufficiently outstanding to occupy 'Group 1" in his rankings all by themselves They are Ray Robinson, welterweight champion, and Willie Pep, boss of the featherweights.

He lists Rinty Monaghan of Ireland as world flyweight champion and Dado Marino of Hawaii as No. 2 among the 112-pounders, ignoring Jackie Paterson of Scotland, who is recognized as world champion by the British Boxing Board of Control. Fleischer ranks Paterson as second leading challenger for the bantamweight title.

Following are *The Ring's* rankings by divisions:

**HEAVYWEIGHT**

GROUP 1

1—Joe Louis, Detroit (champion); 2—Jersey Joe Walcott, Camden, N. J.

GROUP 2

1—Elmer Ray, Minneapolis; 2—Olle Tandberg, Sweden; 3—Joe Baksi, Kulpmont, Pa.; 4—Lee Q. Murray, Norwalk, Conn.; 5—Turkey Thompson, Los Angeles; 6—Tommy Gomez, Tampa, Fla.; 7—Arturo Godoy, Santiago, Chile; 8—Phil Muscato, Buffalo; 9—Bruce Woodcock, England; 10—Joey Maxim, Cleveland.

**LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT**

GROUP 1

1—Gus Lesnevich, Cliffside Park, N. J. (champion); 2—Ezzard Charles, Cincinnati.

GROUP 2

1—Archie Moore, St. Louis; 2—Billy Fox, Philadelphia; 3—Tommy Yarosz, Pittsburgh; 4—Freddie Mills, England; 5—Lloyd Marshall, Detroit; 6—Dave Sands, Australia; 7—Bob Foxworth, Chicago; 8—Billy Smith, Oakland, Cal.

**MIDDLEWEIGHTS**

1—Rocky Graziano, New York (champion); 2—Tony Zale, Gary, Ind.; 3—Bert Lydell, Fresno, Cal.; 4—Marcel Cerdan, Casablanca; 5—Jake LaMotta, New York; 6—Steve Belloise, New York; 7—Al Hostak, Seattle; 8—Fred Apostoli, San Francisco; 9—Major Jones, Kansas City; 10—Anton Raadak, Chicago; 11—Jackie Darthard, Kansas City.

**WELTERWEIGHT**

GROUP 1

1—Ray Robinson, New York (champion).

GROUP 2

1—Tommy Bell, Youngstown, O.; 2—Gene Burton, Chicago; 3—Bernard Docusen, New Orleans; 4—Tony Janiro, Youngstown, O.; 5—Johnny Greco, Montreal; 6—George Costner, Cincinnati; 7—Tony Pellone, New York; 8—Kid Gavilan, Cuba; 9—Frankie Fernandez, Honolulu; 10—Tippy Larkin, Garfield, N. J.; 11—Tommy Burns, Australia.

**LIGHTWEIGHT**

GROUP 1

1—Ike Williams, Trenton (champion); 2—Enrique Bolanos, Los Angeles; 3—Bob Montgomery, Philadelphia; 4—Rudy Cruz, Los Angeles; 5—Freddie Dawson, Chicago.

GROUP 2

1—Johnny Bratton, Chicago; 2—Jesse Flores, Stockton, Cal.; 3—Billy Thompson, England; 4—Buddy Garcia, Galveston, Tex.; 5—Maxie Docusen, New Orleans.

**FEATHERWEIGHT**

GROUP 1

1—Willie Pep, Hartford (champion).

GROUP 2

1—Humberto Sierra, Cuba; 2—Sandy Saddler, New York; 3—Charley Riley, St. Louis; 4—Miquel Acevedo, Cuba; 5—Jose Baby Gonzales, Cuba; 6—Manny Ortega, El Paso, Tex.; 7—Henry Davis, Honolulu; 8—Chico Rosa, Honolulu; 9—Jock Leslie, Flint, Mich.; 10—Carlos Chavez, Los Angeles.

**BANTAMWEIGHT**

GROUP 1

1—Manuel Ortiz, El Centro, Cal. (champion); 2—Peter Kane, England; 3—Jackie Paterson, Scotland; 4—Luis Galvani, Cuba; 5—Luis Castillo, Los Angeles; 6—David Kui Kong Young, Honolulu; 7—Bunty Doran, Ireland; 8—Armando Puenti Pi, Cuba; 9—Fernando Gagnon, Quebec; 10—Tsuneshi Maruo, Honolulu.

**FLYWEIGHT**

GROUP 1

1—Rinty Monaghan, Ireland (champion); 2—Dado Marino, Honolulu; 3—Maurice Sandeyron, France; 4—Monito Flores, Mexico; 5—Dickie O'Sullivan, England; 6—Raoul Degryse, France.

# Ring Awards to Lesnevich and Walcott for '47

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Mon. 12-29-47

**Veterans Gus Lesnevich and Jersey Joe Walcott did most with their forthright fists during 1947 for boxing, in the opinion expressed by Nat Fleischer, editor of "The Ring" Magazine.**

Lesnevich, 32-year-old light heavyweight champion, was named "Fighter Of The Year" by Fleischer in a copyrighted story that accompanied his magazine's release of the annual ratings of the world's professional leather-tossers.

This Lesnevich designation agreed with the recent vote of the New York Boxing Writers, who singled out the light heavyweight king as the "man who had contributed most to boxing" during the year.

To 33-year-old Walcott went the ring's accolade for having been a principal in the "round of the year"—the fourth round of his memorable title fight with heavyweight champion Joe Louis—the round in which he floored Louis for the count of seven.

**Walcott also won a medal from the magazine for "an outstanding performance in 1947" in going 15 rounds with Louis and putting the champion on the canvas twice.**

Fleischer admitted that Walcott's near-upset of Louis on Dec. 5 made Jersey Joe a formidable 11th-hour contender for the "fighter-of-the-year" award. The editor pointed out, however, that Lesnevich's '47 campaign had been all-winning—that he had registered four straight victories, including one in a title defense.

**Lesnevich defended his 175-pound crown by stopping Billy Fox in the 10th round. This broke Fox's string of 43 straight professional knockout victories. The champion from Cliffside, N. J., later knocked out heavyweight Melio Bettina at 59 seconds of the first round, for a new Madison Square Garden main-event record; then he went on to outpoint heavyweight Tami Mauriello and to knock out Mauriello in a return bout.**

Mauriello, who had been the top heavyweight contender in the Ring's 1946 ratings, was baldly termed "the flop of the year" by Fleischer.

Although Rocky Graziano lost his New York license, the magazine gave him credit for having participated in the "fight of the year." That was the Chicago Stadium bout in which the "Rock" wrested the world middleweight title from Tony Zale on a technical knockout in the sixth round. Their brawl, incidentally, drew an all-time indoor record gate of $422,009.

A new award—"Rookie Of The Year"—was bestowed upon young Laverne Roach, the ex-marine middleweight from Plainview, Tex. The most promising fighters were Maxie Docusen, New Orleans lightweight, and Billy "Chicken" Thompson, Philadelphia middleweight.

Joe Jeannette as he looks today.

# In this corner

Daily Worker

## About a Kid Who Looks Like a Champion

New York, N.Y. 51e gen.

By Bill Mardo

HIS NAME is still in the "unknown" brackets, but believe me, the next featherweight champion of the world will be Sandy Saddler. I've seen the skinny Negro youngster exactly twice in Garden prelims, the last one about a year ago, but the vision of almost another Ray Robinson in the making floored me so that night, that I still remember what the kid did and just how he did it. He punched in rapid combinations, each one jolting and of the knockdown variety, he boxed smoothly and with amazing coolness for one so young, he maintained his steadiness under fire, and all in all, bore the markings of a coming champion.

**A particular regret of mine has been that Sandy hasn't been seen much in these parts. And maybe that's something to be thankful for. The tendency for a manager with a hot thing in New York is to avariciously rush him in way over his head and plop—out goes the lights on a potential brilliant. Remember the sad case of Aaron Perry, a Negro welter who looked absolutely terrific in his Garden prelim debut? The headlines and smell of mint went to his manager's head, a gent named Garsh, and before you knew it, young Aaron Perry had been belted out by comebacking Henry Armstrong, ringwise Jimmy McDaniels—and it was all over for the kid by the time he went into the Army.**

Saturday 1-25-47

Yes, he's fighting again, but those sad and needless thumpings taken at a time when he should've been brought along slowly and wisely, have taken their toll and Aaron Perry is today just another kid trying to make a living in the ring. His championship potentialities spilled out by a greedy and shortsighted pilot.

**So it's good to see a different story surrounding the career of Sandy Saddler. He's been kept out of town, in the small fight clubs that dot the country . . . and he's been learning. Learning everything a fighter should know before he's ready to tackle the veterans and topnotchers of his division.**

Evidently he is ready for the tougher fry now, because he's coming back to his hometown, New York to headline at St. Nick's Monday night against the very rugged Humberto Zavala. In looking over Saddler's record, I see that he's lost only one fight in the past two years—that one to Phil Terranova of the Bronx, a little rough hustler who once fought Pep for the title. I recall reading at the time of his Detroit loss to Terranova, that Saddler had been the victim of some very questionable tactics by the Bronxite—and the decision was far from popular. So even that one loss on Sandy's record doesn't mean too much.

**It'll be good to observe just how far the kid has progressed since I saw him last. It's a funny thing about some fighters. You may spot them in a prelim . . . jot the name down in your mythical redbook, and then sit back and wait. . . . Wait to see if all the promise you thought you spotted will ever amount to anything. I had that feeling about Saddler two years ago. . . . I've still got it . . . and I'll let you know more about him Tuesday.**

**DON'T KNOW**, at this writing, how Rune Gustaffson fared in his American mile debut . . . but it's interesting to remember what he told me at a press conference some weeks ago. "I've never run on the boards before." As a matter of fact, the banked boards are strictly an American invention. They don't go for it overseas. Yet, many of our European friends have come over here to see what gives on those wooden inclines. Paavo Nurmi was probably the only one thus far, to really get the drift of it.

**When Nurmi, the Olympics marvel of another age, announced he was coming to the States, fans began to dream of his duels with our own Joie Ray. But Ray, with all due respect for Nurmi's outdoor talents, felt certain he'd lick him on the boards. "He's no indoor runner, is he? I'll beat him on the corners," opined Ray. But Nurmi was of a different mind, and in his first meeting with the indoor turns at the old Madison Square Garden, he not only beat Ray but did it in 4:12! In those days, and on that miserably poor track, a 4:12 mile was something to marvel at.**

Gunder Haag had his difficulties on the boards in recent years, even though he looked his old marvelous self outdoors. Marcel Hansenne had his hands full, too, but was coming on fast by the time he had to catch his boat back to France. So, here's hoping our latest celebrated miler from overseas, brother Rune Gustaffson, succeeds where his predecessors failed.

**Because that's the only way we're liable to see a four-minute mile in 1947. If Rune runs his best, and gets a good pushing from our own Messrs. Dodds, MacMitchell and Dixon.**

* * *

Short Shots on the Boxing Beat: Ray Robinson planning a Florida jaunt to get the grippe out of his system. The welter king has been bothered by the germs for a half-year now. . . . Robbie is, incidentally, nixing all stage offers. . . . Little Beau Jack opened up training the other afternoon for his match with Tony Janiro next month.

**And what a sizzler that should be. . . .**

# Yesterday-Today

51e

## Joe Jeannette

~~No. 3 of a Series~~

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

# Athletic Greats Of Bygone Era

By BOB QUEEN

UNION CITY, N.J. — In April, 1909, in the Circ Paris, in France, two fighters battered each other in the ring for 49 rounds, an exhibition in carnage that left the loser looking more like a bashed-in tomato than like a human being.

The victor in that memorable battle was Heavyweight Joe Jeanette, the Jersey wonder, who, now at the age of 77, is actively engaged in an auto-livery and garage business at 2616 Summit Ave.

The loser was Jack McVey, another noted American colored fighter of the rugged days of pugilism who went to Europe to avoid the prejudice that existed in the sport here, to become champion of the continent.

The aging Jeanette, who still walks with a firm gait, daily drives one of his fleet of Cadillac limousines he rents out for funerals and weddings. A master craftsman in the ring, he manages to emerge from 74 ring battles with only minor scars.

### Nationality Confused

Jeanette, handsome, and a six-footer, weighing 195 at his prime, according to the press reports of the day, was born in various localities and was given just as many varied nationalities.

At that time, any act of prowess on the part of a colored man was the cue for the public to find some excuse to say that he wasn't a colored American. In Jeanette's case, it was his name which leaned toward being French.

In spite of the fact that he was called an Indian, a West Indian, Dominican and many other things, he was born just three blocks away from his present business and home, in what is known as North Bergen, N.J.

He was one of six children, two boys and four girls. His brother Marshall, two years older, resides in nearby West New York, N.J. His sisters are living in Connecticut.

1-25-47

In 1906, Jeanette married a hometown girl who later traveled all over Europe with him on his ring tours. They have two children, Joe, Jr., a Navy veteran of World War II, and a daughter, Miss Agnes Jeanette, who manages a Union City dress shop.

Young Jeanette operates his father's 18-car garage and gasoline business. A gymnasium over the garage contains a ring where pugilistic-minded youngsters formerly came to sharpen their punches. Now it is rented out to the West Hudson County Sporting Club.

Jeanette, reciting how he got started in the fight business, said that he was a member of a club that gave a smoker. He had been selected to fight an exhibition with another member, a huge fellow whom, he said, had a dislike for him.

### "Exhibition" Bout

Tipped off in advance that his opponent was planning to give him the works, he said that he went into a training routine.

On the night of the affair, his towering adversary weaved in toward him through the smoke and haze and said, "Come on and fight."

Jeanette complied, delivered one punch and his giant opponent toppled over. "I thought you were going to fight an exhibition," he complained as they carried him out.

It was the beginning of a career that saw such old boxing greats as Battling Jim Johnson, Black Bill Morris Harris, George Cole and Topeka Jack Johnson fall under the Jerseyan's punches.

He was a contemporary of McVey, Sam Langford, whom he fought 18 times and won one bout on a foul, and Jack Johnson. He fought Johnson seven times. Harry Wills came later.

One night in Newark, Jeanette, fighting in the 11th Ward Club, whipped Bob Lee, Bill Tate and Battling Brooks in succession.

But the battle of all battles was the McVey affair in Paris.

The fight was billed as a "fight to the finish," which at that time meant just about what it said.

Joe Jeannette as he looks today.

# In this corner

Daily Worker

## About a Kid Who Looks Like a Champion

New York, N.Y.

By Bill Mardo

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**A particular regret of mine has been that Sandy hasn't been seen much in these parts. And maybe that's something to be thankful for. The tendency for a manager with a hot thing in New York is to avariciously rush him in way over his head and plop—out goes the lights on a potential brilliant. Remember the sad case of Aaron Perry, a Negro welter who looked absolutely terrific in his Garden prelim debut? The headlines and smell of mint went to his manager's head, a gent named Garsh, and before you knew it, young Aaron Perry had been belted out by comebacking Henry Armstrong, ringwise Jimmy McDaniels—and it was all over for the kid by the time he went into the Army.**

Saturday 1-25-47

Yes, he's fighting again, but those sad and needless thumpings taken at a time when he should've been brought along slowly and wisely, have taken their toll and Aaron Perry is today just another kid trying to make a living in the ring. His championship potentialities spilled out by a greedy and shortsighted pilot.

**So it's good to see a different story surrounding the career of Sandy Saddler. He's been kept out of town, in the small fight clubs that dot the country . . . and he's been learning. Learning everything a fighter should know before he's ready to tackle the veterans and topnotchers of his division.**

Evidently he is ready for the tougher fry now, because he's coming back to his hometown, New York to headline at St. Nick's Monday night against the very rugged Humberto Zavala. In looking over Saddler's record, I see that he's lost only one fight in the past two years—that one to Phil Terranova of the Bronx, a little rough hustler who once fought Pep for the title. I recall reading at the time of his Detroit loss to Terranova, that Saddler had been the victim of some very questionable tactics by the Bronxite—and the decision was far from popular. So even that one loss on Sandy's record doesn't mean too much.

**It'll be good to observe just how far the kid has progressed since I saw him last. It's a funny thing about some fighters. You may spot them in a prelim . . . jot the name down in your mythical redbook, and then sit back and wait. . . . Wait to see if all the promise you thought you spotted will ever amount to anything. I had that feeling about Saddler two years ago. . . . I've still got it . . . and I'll let you know more about him Tuesday.**

**DON'T KNOW**, at this writing, how Rune Gustaffson fared in his American mile debut . . . but it's interesting to remember what he told me at a press conference some weeks ago. "I've never run on the boards before." As a matter of fact, the banked boards are strictly an American invention. They don't go for it overseas. Yet, many of our European friends have come over here to see what gives on those wooden inclines. Paavo Nurmi was probably the only one thus far, to really get the drift of it.

**When Nurmi, the Olympics marvel of another age, announced he was coming to the States, fans began to dream of his duels with our own Joie Ray. But Ray, with all due respect for Nurmi's outdoor talents, felt certain he'd lick him on the boards. "He's no indoor runner, is he? I'll beat him on the corners," opined Ray. But Nurmi was of a different mind, and in his first meeting with the indoor turns at the old Madison Square Garden, he not only beat Ray but did it in 4:12! In those days, and on that miserably poor track, a 4:12 mile was something to marvel at.**

Gunder Haag had his difficulties on the boards in recent years, even though he looked his old marvelous self outdoors. Marcel Hansenne had his hands full, too, but was coming on fast by the time he had to catch his boat back to France. So, here's hoping our latest celebrated miler from overseas, brother Rune Gustaffson, succeeds where his predecessors failed.

**Because that's the only way we're liable to see a four-minute mile in 1947. If Rune runs his best, and gets a good pushing from our own Messrs. Dodds, MacMitchell and Dixon.**

* * *

Short Shots on the Boxing Beat: Ray Robinson planning a Florida jaunt to get the grippe out of his system. The welter king has been bothered by the germs for a half-year now. . . . Robbie is, incidentally, nixing all stage offers. . . . Little Beau Jack opened up training the other afternoon for his match with Tony Janiro next month.

**And what a sizzler that should be. . . .**

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Afro-American, Baltimore, Md. 1-25-47

# Athletic Greats Of Bygone Era

~~No. 3 of a Series~~

## Yesterday-Today

## Joe Jeannette

By BOB QUEEN

UNION CITY, N.J. — In April, 1909, in the Circ de Paris, in France, two fighters battered each other in the ring for 49 rounds, an exhibition in carnage that left the loser looking more like a bashed-in tomato than like a human being.

The victor in that memorable battle was Heavyweight Joe Jeannette, the Jersey wonder, who, now, at the age of 77, is actively engaged in an auto-livery and garage business at 2616 Summit Ave.

The loser was Jack McVey, another noted American colored fighter of the rugged days of pugilism who went to Europe to avoid the prejudice that existed in the sport here, to become champion of the continent.

The aging Jeannette, who still walks with a firm gait, daily drives one of his fleet of Cadillac limousines he rents out for funerals and weddings. A master craftsman in the ring, he manages to emerge from 74 ring battles with only minor scars.

### Nationality Confused

Jeannette, handsome, and a six-footer, weighing 195 at his prime, according to the press reports of the day, was born in various localities and was given just as many varied nationalities.

At that time, any act of prowess on the part of a colored man was the cue for the public to find some excuse to say that he wasn't a colored American. In Jeannette's case, it was his name which leaned toward being French.

In spite of the fact that he was called an Indian, a West Indian, a Dominican and many other things, he was born just three blocks away from his present business and home, in what is known as North Bergen, N.J.

He was one of six children, two boys and four girls. His brother, Marshall, two years older, resides in nearby West New York, N.J. His sisters are living in Connecticut.

In 1906, Jeannette married a hometown girl who later traveled all over Europe with him on his ring tours. They have two children, Joe, Jr., a Navy veteran of World War II, and a daughter, Miss Agnes Jeannette, who manages a Union City dress shop.

Young Jeannette operates his father's 18-car garage and gasoline business. A gymnasium over the garage contains a ring where pugilistic-minded youngsters formerly came to sharpen their punches. Now it is rented out to the West Hudson County Sporting Club.

Jeannette, reciting how he got started in the fight business, said that he was a member of a club that gave a smoker. He had been selected to fight an exhibition with another member, a huge fellow whom, he said, had a dislike for him.

### "Exhibition" Bout

Tipped off in advance that his opponent was planning to give him the works, he said that he went into a training routine.

On the night of the affair, his towering adversary weaved in toward him through the smoke and haze and said, "Come on—and fight."

Jeannette complied, delivered one punch and his giant opponent toppled over. "I thought you were going to fight an exhibition," he complained as they carried him out.

It was the beginning of a career that saw such old boxing greats as Battling Jim Johnson, Black Bill Morris Harris, George Cole and Topeka Jack Johnson fall under the Jerseyan's punches.

He was a contemporary of McVey, Sam Langford, whom he fought 18 times and won one bout on a foul, and Jack Johnson. He fought Johnson seven times. Harry Wills came later.

One night in Newark, Jeannette, fighting in the 11th Ward Club, whipped Bob Lee, Bill Tate and Battling Brooks in succession.

But the battle of all battles was the McVey affair in Paris.

The fight was billed as a "fight to the finish," which at that time meant just about what it said.

# Was Benny Leonard or Joe Gans Greatest All-Time Lightweight?

Afro-American

By SAM LACY

Baltimore, Md.

The recent death of Benny Leonard, former world lightweight champion, brought forth many literary masterpieces recalling his feats as a professional prize-fighter.

In several of these, published in the nation's press, Leonard was hailed as "the greatest lightweight of them all," and he was the recipient of tribute which many sports followers had thought was reserved for the Old Master, Joe Gans. Sat 5-24-47

Fully aware of the futility of making comparisons, and with no intention of taking any deserved honors away from the deceased boxing genius, the AFRO, nevertheless, could not resist the temptation to look at Leonard's record. The purpose was to discover, if possible, what he had done to suddenly gain ranking above the little pugilist whose name is spoken in revered tones even until today—37 years after his death in his beloved Baltimore.

Leonard did not begin his profesisonal ring career until 1912, two years after Gans had died. Consequently, the two never met. Nor did they meet any common foes. Afro-American

In paying homage to the clever Jewish lightweight, several writers made much ado over the fact that in 208 fights over a 13-year period, he lost but five bouts.

But in their capitulation, these writers overlooked the fact that Leonard frequently engaged in a type of bout with which Gans would have little to do. Of those 208 fights, 113 were no-decision contests and seven others were listed as exhibitions.

In at least 120 of the matches he fought during 13 years in the squared circle, LEONARD COULD NOT LOSE!

Gans, on the other hand, fought for 19 years—from 1891 to 1909 inclusive—and was listed in only 18 no decision bouts.

Leonard won the title in 1917 and held it until he retired in 1924, seven years. Gans acquired the crown in 1902 and defended it successfully for six years, until 1908.

The class of the competition in their respective eras is something this writer cannot determine. However, exhaustive reading on boxers and boxing leads this department to believe that Leonard fought only four men of established merit—unless it was a no-decision affair.

During his reign as 135-pound kingpin, the Patent Leather Kid, as he was often called, defeated Lew Tendler, Rocky Kansas and Willie Ritchie, and lost on a foul to Jack Britton, all white.

He is also credited with a victory over the classy Johnny Kilbane, but Kilbane, a featherweight who never weighed more than 126 pounds. And when Benny boxed him, the Cleveland Irishman was conceding seven years in age as well as the difference in poundage. Baltimore, Md.

But Gans had no such primrose path, if that it can be called in the bust and bash business.

The Old Master counted among his opponents several of the hallowed names in the game. Although he lost to him, Gans fought 15 blistering rounds with Sam Langford, he whom heavyweights were persistently avoiding.

He fought and gained a draw with Joe Walcott, rated until today the greatest welterweight champion who ever drew on a glove; he fought Mike (Twin) Sullivan, Jimmy Britt, Jack Blackburn, Bobby Dobbs, Frank Erne, Steve Crosby, Dal Hawkins, Kid McPartland, Dave Holly.

Gans fought them and licked them. He didn't box them for the sake of entertaining the customers, like in exhibitions and no decisions. He fought them to beat them.

The New York boxing authority, Nat Fleischer, editor of Ring Magazine, says in his "Black Dynamite" series: "No man ever conquered a tougher field than did Gans in winning his title . . . Hawkins, McFadden, Griffo, etc."

Fighting as both did under the Marquis of Queensberry rules, Gans and Leonard plied their trade with gloves of the same weight.

True, Leonard retired undefeated and returned to the ring seven years later to take his roughest handling. True, Leonard made the game bow its head, dying as he did in the ring.

But Gans died in the ring, too. He didn't draw his last breath lying prone on the rosined canvass. But he died in the ring nevertheless. Sat 5-24-47

The Old Master forfeited his life making weight in a gallant and sporting defense of his title; making weight by peeling off flesh he could ill afford and losing his health in the doing.

Time Chicago, Ill. Mon. 3-10-47

Acme

GOLDEN GLOVERS (AT CHICAGO)

*For cameramen too, a grand slam.*

## Photographers' Night

Time Chicago, Ill.

In Chicago Stadium last week, one night was filled with the music of haymakers—and lighted by flashbulbs. It was the semifinals of the national Golden Gloves tournaments, and 506 U.S. newspapers had a proprietary interest in the slugging. The contestants had been chosen in local contests sponsored by the papers. Though the fighters usually showed more spunk than skill, Golden Gloves had produced Joe Louis. The photographers worked as hard on their bosses' pet sport promotion as the leather-pushers. Their pictures were the sport shots of the week (*see cuts*).

Mon. 3-10-47

# Bee Bee Flattens Priest, Eyes Bout With Sugar Ray

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 6-21-47

### Harrisburg Welterweight Batters Foe Into Submission in Ninth

PHILADELPHIA

Bee Bee Wright, the Harrisburg welterweight who is being prominently mentioned as a possible foe for Ray Robinson here late in the summer, didn't hurt his chances of landing such a bout when he battered Al (Red Priest, white Bostonian, into submission at the Outdoor Arena, Monday night, before 5,935 onlookers.

Showing his fistic wares to great advantage, Wright bombarded Priest with a head and body attack for eight rounds and then was clubbing him at will in the ninth when Referee Charley Daggert stepped in and halted the milling. Sat. 6-21-47

**Priest 3-1 Underdog**

A 3-1 underdog, Priest was badly beaten at battle's end, but he had resisted stout-heartedly all along the route and his showing gave local fans a good idea of where Wright stands in the welterweight division.

Bee Bee had made his debut here by knocking out Jerome Frazier and followed that up with one-sided victories over Billy Nixon and Billy Arnold, but none of these victims were top-water performers and it took a well-regarded puncher like Priest to establish Wright's worth.

**Wright Slick Craftsman**

From the first Priest was trying to win but Wright, the slicker boxer and sharper hitter, was belting to better advantage. He concentrated his early rounds attack to the head and then switched to Priest's mid-section when that part of the body appeared more vulnerable.

By the seventh round it was obvious that the attack had robbed Priest of his offensive baggage and it was only a question of whether the seven-pound weight advantage enjoyed by Priest, at 154, would enable the New Englander to withstand the punishment that was coming.

Wright re-shifted his attack to the head in the eighth and it was near the end of that period that successive rights drove Priest halfway across the ring and deposited him on his haunches for a nine count. The bell rang just as he got up. Sat. 6-21-47

Wright's first blow in the ninth indicated that the end was near. It was another right to the head and it left Priest staggering. Two more head shots put him in further trouble and it was at this juncture that the referee essayed his mercy mission.

Opinions on what Wright could do with Welter Champion Robinson varied as fans poured out of the Arena, but information from Promoter Herman Taylor's office has it that both fighters are interested in meeting each other. However, the local ring impresario did not indicate whether he was working on a bout between the two.

# Heavyweight History

WILSON, N.C. — In Sam Lacy's article, "Joe A Champ for 10 Years," he stated that Jack Johnson defended his title only six times and Tommy Burns 10, Gene Tunney 3, Jim Jeffries, 7.

Looking back over some scrapbook clippings I see where Jack Johnson defended his title 10 times, Tommy Burns 11, Gene Tunney 2, and Jim Jeffries 6.

Who is right and who is wrong?
—HENRY S. BARNE

Afro-American

THE RECORD

(Editor's Note: According to the 1944 edition of Nat Fleischer's All-Time Ring Record Book," Jack Johnson won the heavyweight title from Tommy Burns Dec. 26, 1908, and successfully defended it in six bouts (with Victor McLaglen, Stanley Ketchel, James J. Jeffries, Jim Flynn, Frank Moran, and A. Spaul). He fought Jim Johnson to a draw and he lost the championship to Jess Willard April 5, 1915.

James J. Jeffries won the title from Bob Fitzsimmons June 9, 1899. Besides knocking out Fitzsimmons again in 1902, he defeated seven other contenders (Tommy Sharkey, Jack Finnegan, Jim Corbett, Hank Griffin, Joe Kennedy, Gus Ruhlin, and Jack Monroe). Lack of opposition after the Munroe bout forced him into retirement in March, 1905.

**Burns-Hart** 9-13-47

Tommy Burns claimed the world title after defeating Marvin Hart Feb. 23, 1906. Another claimant to the title were Philadelphia Jack O'Brien whom Burns fought to a draw Nov. 28, 1906, but did not defeat until May 8, 1907. Subsequently he knocked out Bill Squires (three times) as well as Gunner Moir, Jack Palmer, Jem Roche, Jewey Smith and Bill Lang before losing to Jack Johnson.

**DEMPSEY TELLS LOUIS**

New York, Sept. 8—Jack Dempsey, once the champ of the fistic arena, rises to a point on Joe Louis, present champion who has held the title longer than any man in the history of the racket. Dempsey tells Louis that at 33 he is an old man as far as prize fighting goes, and that he ought to step down before somebody knocks him under down.

As usual Joe said nothing, but started getting ready for his tune up with Jersey Joe. Thurs. 9-11-47

Dempsey will be remembered as the Champ who refused to meet any colored challenger. He ran himself sick dodging Harry Wills.

Gene Tunney defended the world heavyweight title only twice (against Jack Dempsey and Tom Heeney) before retiring. He defended the American light heavyweight title three times (against Jack Clifford, Whitey Wenzel, and Jack Burke) before losing it to Harry

Greb May 24, 1922.

# British Boxer in U. S., Hopes to Beat Color Ban

Afro American, Baltimore, Md.

CHICAGO—Reversing the usual pattern of most colored Americans who go abroad to escape Jim Crow, doughty Cliff Anderson, British featherweight sensation, had to leave England and come to the United States in order to get a chance at the boxing crown observers feel he can easily win. Sat. 11-17-47

"Anderson, a native of British Guiana, has battered nine champions," according to a photo-profile in December Ebony. "English Empire, European and world champs have been licked by Cliff, yet he can't win a British national title because he is colored."

Britian's Board of National Boxing Control bans colored fighters from holding national titles and although Anderson, an ex-seaman, has beaten more boxing champs than any other pugilist in the ring today, he is no champ himself.

"British fans, though, have taken Cliff to their hearts," the article says. "In his last fight they pitched a near-riot at the decision against the little slugger. This decision was so raw that it was denounced in the House of Commons."

# British Negro in U. S. To Beat Color Ban

CHICAGO—Reversing the usual pattern of most colored Americans who go abroad to escape Jim Crow, doughty Cliff Anderson, British Negro featherweight sensation, had to leave England and come to the United States in order to get a chance at the boxing crown many observers feel he can eaesily win. Wed. 11-19-47

"Anderson, a native of British Guinana, has battered nine champions," according to a photo-profile in December Ebony. "English Empire, European and world champs have been licked by Cliff, yet he can't win a British national title because he is a Negro."

Britain's Board of National Boing Control bans Negro fighters from holdixng national titles and although Anderson, an ex-seaman, has beaten more boxing champs than any other pugilist in the ring today, he is no champ himself.

"British fans, though, have taken Cliff to their hearst," Ebony says. "In his last fight they pitched a near-riot at the decision against the little Negro. This decision was so raw that it was denounced in the House of Commons."

A counter-puncher in the Joe Gans style, Cliff is fast on his feet; can run as fast backward as forward.

# George Padmore
## WORLD VIEWS

**Raps Color Bar in Boxing**

COLONIAL SECRETARY Creech Jones who has always strongly opposed the Color-Bar policy whether in Britain or the Colonies has appealed to the bigshots who sit on the British Boxing Board of Control to abolish racial discrimination against colored boxers, who are prevented from fighting for the British championship titles under present regulations.

In a letter recently addressed to these boxing czars, the Colonial Secretary let it be known that he "associates himself wholeheartedly with the proposal in view of its importance to Colonial relationship."

It is understood in sporting circles that Mr. J. Lewis, Labor M.P. for Bolton, has organized a National Boxing Association to promote fights free from racial discrimination.

A delegation of boxing fans have asked the officials of the British Boxing Control Board to meet them in order to discuss the question of "color bar." The Colonial Secretary has expressed that he would like a representative of the Colonial Office to join the delegation when they meet the members of the Control Board. Chicago, Ill.

While Mr. Creech Jones is fighting to obtain racial equality for colored folk in the sporting world of this country, certain influential members of Parliament are trying to maintain a "Jim Crow" system in the armed forces.

**British Army Should Follow Pattern of American**

Such people would like the British Army to follow the pattern of the U.S. Armed forces, where Negroes are segregated from whites.

"Is the Under-Secretary of War aware that white regiments are for white men, and that white regiments want only white men?" asked General Sir George Jeffreys, to Mr. John Freeman, Under Secretary for the War Office, in the House of Commons. Commenting upon what is obviously an attempt to keep colored folks out of British regiments now that the war is over, the "Daily Worker," reveals that "after more than a year's consideration the War Office and the Admiralty have not yet agreed to abolish the color-bar. Sat. 6-7-47

"There must be not a few admirals and generals who share these degenerate opinions." But thanks to the advocacy for racial equality on the part of Mr. Tom Driberg and Major Lyall Wilkes, the War Office and Admiralty will find it difficult to evade the color-bar issue much longer.

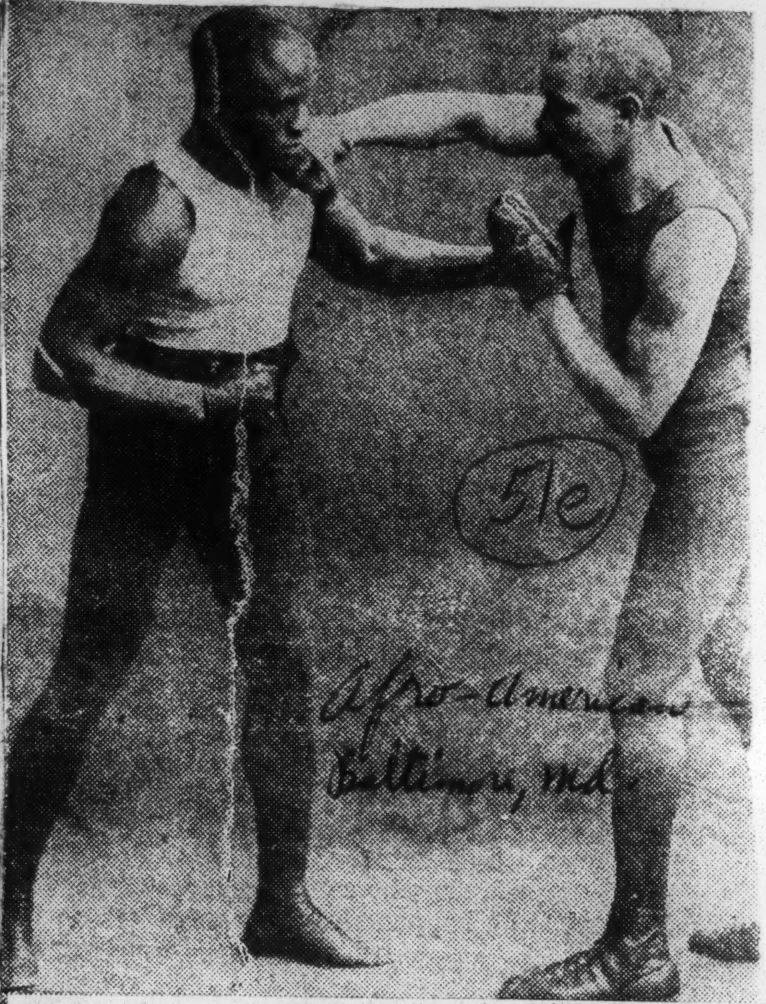
**Refuse to Meet Officials**

THE LATEST DEVELOPMENT regarding the attitude of the color-bar in boxing is that the czars who control the game have now refused to even meet the Colonial Secretary or his representatives to consider why racial segregation in boxing should be abolished.

This fact was revealed in the House of Commons when members heard a report that the request of Mr. John Lewis, the M.P. for Bolton, asking the Boxing Board of Control for a meeting to discuss what he called "disquiet" in the minds of the public, regarding the present administration of the Board.

Baltimore, Md.

**A FIGHTER RELAXES**—Jimmy Bivins, Cleveland heavyweight title contender, takes things easy in Baltimore's York Hotel while awaiting a bout with Lee Q. Murray of Connecticut. The AFRO cameraman catches Bivins eating his mid-day meal. Like most fighters, Jimmy prefers steaks and chops for his meals, rarely drinks anything but water or milk, and shuns sweets. With him at his meal is Babe Dunning, who trains and accompanies the fighter on all his trips. Sat. 6-14-47




Afro-American **JOE GANS** Baltimore, Md.

*Baltimore should honor this native son, who was one of the world's greatest boxers, says writer of the accompanying article. This photo taken in 1903 shows the "Old Master" sparring with Young Peter Jackson, left.*

Afro-American **JOE GANS** Baltimore, Md.

*Born in Baltimore in 1874, he held world's lightweight title from 1902-1908. He died in 1910 at the age of 36.*

**JOE GANS** (51e)

He was the lad called "Old Master"— Afro-American
The game, invincible Joe Gans;
To all foes he spelled disaster,
Brought joy unstinted to ring fans; Baltimore, Md.
When he died none came thereafter
To equal him in boxing art,
His life, one of fun and laughter
And gen'rous deeds which warmed the heart.

(James Harris)

51e- 1947 General

# JOE GANS- "Old Master," Was One of World's Greatest Fighters

● By JAMES HARRIS

"IF GANS had been white, I think he would rank today as the most idolized fighter of all time—one held in greater esteem, and even more admiration and affectionate memory, than is John L. Sullivan." Those are the words of Jim Coffroth, the Mike Jacobs of the Gay Nineties era of sport.

It is a pity that this great fighter could not be here today to win some of the lush rewards which they give to those who can take it and dish it out in the squared circle.

In the opinion of those who saw him fight, he never had an equal, and even Damon Runyon, supreme among word artists in sport, could not draw a picture which would give today's readers an adequate idea of Joe Gans at his best.

A native Baltimorean, Gans won the lightheavy crown in May, 1902, when he trimmed Frank Erne of his championship honors in the first round of their bout in Fort Erie.

One of the well-known sports writers of that day quoted Willie Fitzgerald, who was bested by the "Old Master," as Gans was affectionately called, as saying:

"Joe Gans is the greatest lightweight the world ever saw. Most fellows can feint and block and hit, but none of them class with this fellow. He's so cool about everything you can't faze him with a feint and you can't ball him up in a mix. He's the same all the time—but my, how he can hit!

"When he feints, you have to cover up, because he never hits you unless it's right on the point he aims at and is as hard as he can hit. He beat me easily. I'll admit I didn't know where I was at any time in that fight . . ." Afro-American / Baltimore, Md.

He was just as popular out of the ring as he was admired in it, for no man, black or white, upon whom Gans looked as a pal ever appealed to him for help in vain. 11-22-47 magazine

### Generosity Kept Him Broke

His generosity and his penchant for those "galloping dominoes" kept him broke practically all the time.

His honesty itself was a drawback in one sense, for it gave him credit in any place where the gods of chance operated, and he once owed $9,000 of a $10,000 purse even before he had won it.

We saw him fight Steve Crosby in Louisville, Ky. in the nineties, and although Crosby gave him quite a fight he had no chance with Gans, who was not only a superb boxer, but a two-handed puncher who hurt his opponents every time he landed.

Crosby had licked every lightweight in Kentucky and had a large following which believed that he had a chance to upset Gans. He lived right next door to the writer and we knew him intimately.

He had installed quite an array of training equipment in his back yard and he got a lot of fun in trying to teach us something about the science of boxing.

### Right Hand Main Worry

Crosby had a lot of confidence in himself, but he knew that in meeting Gans he was practically up against perfection. He trained faithfully and he told me that if he could evade Gans's right hand for six or seven rounds he thought he had a good chance.

They fought at the old Buckingham Theatre where the ring was pitched on the stage. The house was a sell-out, for Crosby was respected and popular.

In the first four rounds, Crosby held his own. He had a good left hand and he was very fast. Gans seemed contented to let him take the play until he had sized Crosby up. He then proceeded to cut him up, switching from the head to the body as Crosby raised or lowered his guard.

In the 14th he put him down for keeps. Gans was all in with tuberculosis when he lost to Nelson (Sept., 1908—Colma, Calif.), although the latter was one of the greatest of the lightweights and is now living here in Chicago, and weighing no more than he did in his fighting days. He lost a lot of money in the last depression, and is now a clerk in the [illegible]ago Post Office. 11-22-47

Gans was so impressed with Crosby's showing that he tried to presuade him to join Al Hereford's bunch of fighters and tour the country. I think, however, that his defeat broke Crosby's heart, for though he fought afterward, it was not long before he faded from the picture.

### Different Picture Today

Today, colored men hold the heavyweight, welterweight, lightweight, and bantamweight belts, and Billy Fox, with 43 knockouts in 43 fights, made a strong bid for the lightheavy crown.

We had great fighters in the old days, and Gans, along with the others, was poorly managed.

They had no chance at the big "moola" unless they "did as they were told." Gans, who loved the elusive goddess of chance, had lost a bunch of "dibbs" when some hotfingered guy in Baltimore "hit" for twenty licks in a row, and he was right up against the financial wailing wall. 11-22-47

As usual, along came the fixer, who persuaded him that he could make more money by losing to Terry McGovern than Terry could make by wining from him, and Gans, with a lot of "blanks" in his pocket, gave an attentive ear.

We saw that fight at old Tattersalls, and the dive which Gans took was so awkard that everybody in the place was hep. As a result, boxing was killed here in Chicago for twenty years.

Baltimore has always had a big part in sports, but if the old place had given us nothing else save Gans, Janey and the old Orioles, it would have laid its share of good things on the contribution table.

I don't know whether there is any sort of memorial to the "Old Master" in his home State, but there should be. People are getting in the money more and more, and they should spend some of it reminding these present day kids of the men and women who went somewhere when the going was tough.

# From Molyneaux to Louis- Negro Boxing Champs

The Worker New York, NY 51e Gen

By Bill Mardo

From 1809 to 1947.

From Tom Molyneaux to Joe Louis. Sun. 2-9-47

From America's first bare-knuckle heavyweight king through the long years to our current crop of five champions, Negro fighters have consistently won world titles and enriched the history of the prize ring. Theirs is a record not peculiar to boxing alone, but emulated in the world of track, football and any other sport where the Negro athlete has been given an equal chance.

★

Prizefighting in America began with the Negro. The plantation owners in our South three centuries ago used to send their sons to England for schooling. Bare-knuckle boxing was growing in popularity over there, and when those rich young scions returned to America, they brought the boxing fad back with them.

★

**EARLIEST** bare-knuckle matches in America were started by one plantation owner pitting a slave of his against that of a neighbor.

And so the sport caught on. Tom Molyneaux was born into a family of slaves owned by the Molyneaux of Virginia. His father and grandfather were also known for their fistic prowess. It's said that Tom became a freemen by way of reward for his fighting ability.

Anyway, the year 1809 found him the fistic rage of the Catherine Markets area in New York where he challenged and whipped all comers to earn recognition as the American heavyweight champ. He became the first American champion to fight internationally when he travelled to England in 1801 to meet the British champ, Tom Cribb.

The two met in Essex, Dec. 10, and went at it bitterly for 33 rounds. At the tail end of the 23rd canto, the Negro champ whipped over a powerful solar-plexus punch, and it looked like curtains for Cribbs as he lay exhausted in his handler's arms. The rules governing that fight called for the battler to be back in mid-ring eight seconds after the end of the previous round.

According to the records, Cribb's handlers stalled for time to avoid losing. They quickly howled "Foul" and insisted Molyneaux had been fighting with a piece of metal in his hands. By the time the referee examined Tom's mitts annd proved the foul claim phony, the British champ had enough time to regain his wind and the fight went on! He finally wore down Molyneaux in the 40th round, when the Negro champ was too weak to continue.

★

**AND NOW LET'S** skim along with the many illustrious Negro fighters who followed the great Molyneaux. George Godfrey was another bare-knuckye terror — a man whom John L. Sullivan refused to risk his crown against.

During those years, one of the greatest heavyweights ever born appeared on the scene. Born in the West Indies, Peter Jackson had little interest in fighting until as a seaman, he arrived in Australia where a gent named Larry Foley tutored him.

Three years later, Jackson won the Australian heavyweight title

by kayoing Tom Lees in 30 rounds. The scientific boxer-puncher came to America in 1888 and found most American topnotchers conveniently shying away from him. He finally got a match with the touted Joe McAuliffe and belted him out in the 24th.

★

**GEORGE DIXON,** standing five-feet, three-inches high, was one of the most spectacular fighters of his time. He won both the bantamweight and featherweight championships, and held one or the other for 11 years of constant battling.

★

**JOE GANS,** The Old Master. The greatest fighter who ever lived? You'd have a hard time proving otherwise to the oldtimers still around who may have seen the great Negro lightweight who even took on heavyweights during his halcyon days from 1901 to 1908.

Gans won the lightweight title at Ontario, May 12, 1901, when he stiffened Frank Erne in the first round. He beat more great fighters of his time than we have room to list . . . George MacFadden, Kid Herman, Jimmy Britt, etc. His two most memorable fights, of course, came against Battling Nelson, the Durable Dane. He beat Nelson at the end of 42 stanzas, when the Battler fouled the Old Master.

Two years later, in 1908, Nelson batted him out in the 17th round—to finally end the career of a masterful ringman who was truly a Giant Killer to end all Giant Killers. 2-9-47

★

**JACK JOHNSON** became the first modern Negro heavyweight champ. Superbly built, he was both the boxer supreme and deadly puncher. In 1908, he cornered Tommy Burns in Australia and got the title shot for which he was asking. Burns was no match for Johnson, a defensive genius who fought without any wasted motion, and the first Negro heavy champ since the bare-knuckle days of Tom Molyneaux, was crowned when Burns kissed canvas in the 14th round.

Johnson's great pride in his title, his complete refusal to play "Uncle Tom" to the boxing bigwigs of his day, made him the enemy of the prejudiced. During the years he held the title, promoters scoured the country for a "white hope" to regain boxing's most coveted prize.

Hounded, maligned, chased and jailed on many phony charges ranging from auto speeding to white slavery, the great champion finally was forced to leave the country in 1914. Some years later he lost his title to the giant Jess Willard in Havana, taking the ten count on his side while holding one hand over his eyes to shield him from the sun.

★

**JOE WALCOTT** held the welterweight championship of the world from 1901 to 1904. The sensational Tiger Flowers outpointed the one and only Harry Greb for the middleweight crown in 1926, and licked him again in a return match six months later. The fast-punching Negro titleholder bowed out in a close decision to Mickey Walker, and a major operation soon after ended the life of this famed champion of the 1920's.

Yes, the ranks of ringdom's greatest are loaded with the names of Negro performers. And I haven't touched on those who've been fighting during the past decade up to the present. Suppose I continue with them in the Daily Worker Monday. 2-9-47

***HENRY ARMSTRONG,** one of the all-time boxing greats, mentioned in the Negro History Week sports review on this page.*

# Thru the Years With Negro Ringmen

Daily Worker

2-11-47 New York, N.Y.

By BILL MARDO

***(Continued from Sunday—the history of famed Negro ringmen.)***

(2) 51c 9m.

**BEFORE FINISHING** up on the great Negro scrappers of yesteryear, let's pause a second and pay tribute to four heavyweights who really left an indelible mark on the fight game. The color line which Jack Johnson wasn't to bust for some years later, prevented Sam Langford, Joe Jeanette, Sam McVey and Harry Wills from basking in the sunlight which so rightfully should have been theirs.

The result being that these superb heavies had to fight each other time and time again to earn a living—and truth is their battles were some of the most memorable in all ring history. Of the lot, Sam Langford was probably the best. Those who go way back to the turn of the century insist that the heavyweight hasn't been yet born who could've taken Sam at his peak. Be that as it may, old Sam Langford, blind and almost penniless, today sits out his remaining years in a dingy Harlem flat singing the praises of the man he rates the best ever—Joe Louis. To give you an idea of how it went in those days for topnotch Negro heavyweights—Joe Jeanette fought ten times with Langford, six with Jack Johnson and other bouts with McVey and Harry Wills. And Harry Wills, in turn, met Langford 14 times. Wills, a little younger than the rest, hung around in the heavy ranks long enough to be shooed out of a title match with Jack Dempsey.

Daily Worker

**AND NOW let's move along to the 1920's and modern times in the squared circle. Will anyone ever forget Kid Chocolate—the only and only "Keed"—the lithe, slippery customer who copped the featherweight title in 1928 in an elimination tourney conducted by the New York Boxing Commission? He then moved on to the lightweight ranks and rapidly rose to the top. Terrifically popular with the fans, he had about everything a great ringman needs. Speed, skill, a good sock and a fighting heart.**

●

**AL BROWN** was another Negro topnotcher who fought during Kid Chocolate's time. Al won the bantam title in 1929 when he outpointed Vidal Gregorio in New York City. Several years later Al went abroad and defeated the French champion Haut in 1932. Brown's bantam crown was declared vacant in 1935 when he failed to return from overseas for a defense of his laurels.

2-11-47

Yes, the ranks of ringdom was really loaded with great Negro fighters in the 1920's, what with Kid Chocolate, Al Brown, John Henry Lewis, Tiger Flowers and Battling Siki (the latter two whom we mentioned in detail Sunday).

But those 20's were nothing compared to what happened in the next decade when two gents named Louis and Armstrong entered the scene.

New York, N.Y.

**HAMMERING HANK ARMSTRONG had to be seen to be believed. He looked liked a light-heavy through his shoulders, a featherweight in his waist, and a lightweight in the legs. He fought like all three divisions combined.**

Born in St. Louis in the year 1912, Armstrong spent his early youth knocking about, trying to pick up pieces of schooling as he went along, always dreaming of becoming a doctor or maybe a writer. How he wound up fighting isn't a new story in the prize ring.

**Armstrong began to be heard from widely in 1937, when his windmill style and ceaseless two-fisted attack brought him 26 knockout wins and the never-to-be-forgotten label of "Hammering Hank." It was the following year, 1938, when Henry Armstrong set a precedent in boxing that will probably be never equalled. In October, 1937 he annexed Petey Sarron's featherweight crown—and before another 12 months had passed, Homocide Hank had taken Barney Ross' welter title and Lou Ambers' lightweight bauble.**

Daily Worker

But Henry Armstrong was more than the first three-title champ in boxing history. He was more than a man who defended his titles against all comers. He was more than a great fisticuffer who finally went down to bloody, blinding defeat at the cutting hands of Fritzie Zivic to mark the end of his peak days in 1941. Henry Armstorng was and is, a militant class-conscious person who is dedicated to the fight for Negro equality and democracy everywhere. No one will ever forget his touching poem penned the day before he fought Barney Ross—a poem musing the ironic fact that a Jew and a Negro were to meet for the world's championship—two men who come from the two most oppressed peoples in the world.

2-11-47

**JOE LOUIS has had more words written about him than any other prizefighter. At the age of 33, he still reigns as the greatest heavyweight champion in history after 10 years of defending his title more often than any other previous champ and more often than many combinations of past heavy kings.**

But he'll be remembered for more than the mere numbers of times he met all comers.

There may never be another heavyweight like him.

New York, N.Y.

**Today there are five Negro world's champions in the ring. Joe Louis in the heavy division, the incomparable Ray Robinson topping the welters; Bob Montgomery is the recognized lightweight king, although the NBA version belongs to another Negro, Ike Williams; and the latest Negro champ is young Harold Dade who recently won the bantamweight crown from Manuel Ortiz.**

There are other Negro headliners too. Former welter king Beau Jack; a lad named Billy Fox who has won all of his 43 professional fights by kayoes and three weeks hence meets Gus Lesnevich for the light-heavy title, the crowd-pleasing Willie Joyce; the ranking heavyweight Elmer Ray and Jersey Joe Walcott; a newcomer fighting in Chicago, name of Johnny Bratton who they say is a terrific welter; and Sandy Saddler, a beautiful boxer-puncher who is rolling right through the featherweight ranks toward Willie Pep's title. And so many others, Jimmy Bivins, Ezzard Charles, Gene Burton, the much feared and much avoided Charley Burley, etc., etc....

2-11-47

**Yes, Negro scrappers have always played and continue to play leading roles in the professional prize ring. We imagine one Theodore Bilbo would have a hard time swallowing this sketchy review. His aching throat, no doubt.**

# Heavyweight, Al Hoosman, Sues Look for $250,000

51e Afro-American Sat. 6-14-47 Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—(CNS)—Al Hoosman, heavyweight fighter, has sued Look magazine for $250,000 for libel as a result of an article which referred to him in a recent issue.

The heading of the article "Gambling Fix Menaces Sports," included a paragraph which Hoosman and his manager, Clarence Edwards, charge was libelous and cost him a fortune in future fight commitments.

It read: "The boxing crowd has long known, for example, that such prominent pugilists as Tami Mauriello, Johnny Greco, Cecil Hudson and Al Hoosman, some of them highly unpredictable performers—are managed by a character named Frank Carbo, alias Frank Corbo, alias Paul Corbo, alias Paul John Carbo, alias Frank Tucker, alias Jimmy the Wop."

"I am amazed that a big, influential magazine like Look would allow such a slip-shod piece of irresponsible reporting as 'Gambling Fix Menaces Sports' to besmirch its pages. It is incredible that it was written by Mr. Cohane, the sports editor," said Edwards.

Al Hoosman," he continued, "served four years, seven months and twenty-six days in the armed forces, almost three of those teeming years in the South Pacific. He was honorably discharged from the United States Army after receiving several battle stars and citations. When he returned to his chosen profession, boxing, he was managed by the late Jimmy Johnson. After Jimmy died, I purchased Hoosman's contract from Charley Johnston, who is Jimmy's brother. Mr. Frank Carbo never approached me in reference to buying Hoosman's contract and he has nothing to do with the fighter." Sat. 6-14-47

Edwards further stated that the uncomplimentary story caused Hoosman to lose a bout with Tami Mauriello at Ebbets Field, Brooklyn, May 28th, because it charged that Hoosman and Mauriello are managed by the same person. A pair of lucrative outdoor bouts were ruled out in Chicago because the promoter fears to use Hoosman on account of the article.

# Al Hoosman Wins Decision Bout From "Buddy" Walker

Atlanta, Ga. 51e Daily World Thurs. 6-26-47

BALTIMORE, Md.—(NNPA)— Al Hooseman, of Chicago, won a unanimous decision over Buddy Walker, of Columbus, Ohio, in a close fight at the Coliseum last Monday night.

The winner left the ring with his left eye slightly cut after a bleeding mouth and nose had been repaired. He sustained the damage to his appearance in two fierce rounds of inside fighting by Walker. Walker fore returning to competition.

Using his superior reach and boxing ability to advantage, Hoosman kept Walker off him in the early rounds. Jabbing Walker in the face with his left with an occasional right cross, Hoosman took the first three rounds. Thurs. 6-26-47

Walker worked his way inside in the fourth, but Hooseman got out of danger. The fifth and sixth rounds were fairly even.

Hoosman took a right and a left to the head at the opening of the seventh, and Walker then alternated punches to the head and body, bringing blood from Hoosman's nose.

Walker came near to dropping Hoosman in the eighth with a right flush on the jaw, and near the last of the round snapped Hoosman's head back with an uppercut.

Hoosman again took command in the ninth and tenth keeping Walker off balance and from getting in close. There was no knock down in the fight. Thurs. 6-26-47

Walker weighed 203 to Hoosman's 199.

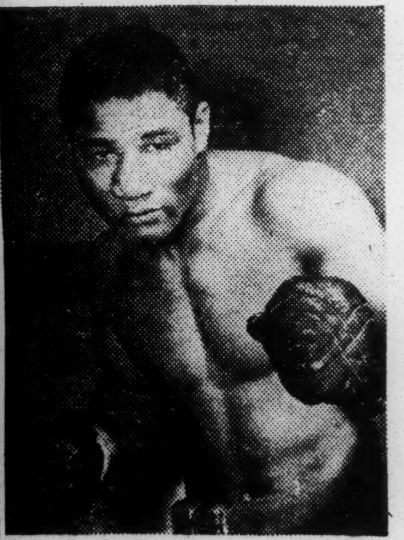
# In This Corner...

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

By Bill Mardo

## *A Talk With Beau Jack*

IN THE TINY dressing room at Stillman's Gym Beau Jack sat on the rubbing table and tapped his left knee. **"See this scar running' right down? That's the first operation in Chicago when I got hurt trainin' for Johnny Bratton.** No good, that operation. And they shouldn't 'a cut me straight down anyway." Then he pointed to the new horizontal scar which ran across the old one and formed a tiny cross. **"But Dr. Healy, he cut the knee open this way and that's what shoulda' been done the first time. You know somethin'? He even found some pus there and said I had no business fightin' Janiro with an infection like that."**



Beau had just gone three fast rounds, hit the little and big bags upstairs, shadow-boxed, hopped around like a little bumble-bee referring a scrap between two kids working out and through it all one couldn't tell whether or not he was favoring the bad leg.

**"I feel fine. Beginnin' to feel real good now. Don't pay it no mind anymore. The doctor, he told me to go right ahead and forget that I ever hurt it. He guaranteed me it was good as new."** Beau grinned like a happy kid. **"It sure feels fine. Don't even think about it no more."**

I asked Beau whether he'd had a trick knee all his life, but before he could answer, trainer Sid Bell cut in. **"Years ago when Beau was first starting to fight I noticed that every so often the knee used to swell. I'd rest him, doctor it with liniment, and then he'd be good for another few months before it would swell again."**

Fri 10-17-47

But the first time the knee really crippled him was in training for Bobby Ruffin some years ago. **"I was doing road-work in Prospect Park,"** Beau recalled, **"and I stepped on a brick or somethin'. Click! I hear the knee crack but I paid it no mind."** Beau went through with that fight, hobbling about as best he could, and absorbed a thorough pasting from a fighter he'd ordinarily lick with one hand—but not one leg.

New York, N.Y.

**AFTER THAT,** the knee got better with rest and bothered him no more. He went on to win and to lose the lightweight crown in thrilling settos with Bob Montgomery, and then went into the service. After his discharge, Beau went back into training. A few inconsequential tuneups and before long he was getting ready for Johnny Bratton, a touted Chicago newcomer.

**"On the very last day of training, the LAST day,"** Beau emphasized with a touch of wonder in his voice, **"I slip on a loose mat in the ring. Bang! I hear that knee split wide open."** Came that foolishly hasty operation in Chicago, a wiring job, more rest, and before long Beau's back in action.

**"I knew there was somethin' wrong when I trained for the Janiro fight,"** he admitted. **"I could only bend the knee so far,"** and he jumped off the table to flex his left leg half-way. **"Just enough to let me hop up and down and move around—but not enough to do everything I hadda' do in the ring."**

How come the Commission doctors didn't notice anything wrong with his knee, especially when he had a history of injuries with that leg? Beau hesitated a minute, and then slowly answered: **"I don't blame the Commission doctors for what happened in the Janiro fight. They asked me how I felt and I said fine. They ask me to jump up and down a few times. Well, I could still do that with the knee even though it was stiff."**

## *Afraid of the Papers*

**DIDN'T BEAU** consider the possibility of permanent harm to his leg if he went through with the fight? Aside from the readiness on the part of his backers to let him fight in that condition, didn't he give his own welfare some thought? Beau answered plainly, and if you know this kid with his uncontrollable enthusiasm for the business of prizefighting, you could believe him when he said: **"I didn't think about that. The contract was signed and I didn't want the papers to say I was scared of Janiro. I'm just a kid who likes to fight and wants to give the public a good show. I didn't wanna let them down . . . and the papers . . . they might'a said . . . well I didn't want anybody to think I was afraid of Janiro. . . ."**

I reminded Beau the public he's so sincerely concerned about wouldn't have thought ill of him had he not met Janiro. They know him and his all-out efforts too well. A 12-dollar ringside seat or the $1.50 ticket upstairs still doesn't entitle anyone to see a guy carried out on a stretcher.

Beau's going to tune-up in three fights out of town, St. Louis, Chicago and Boston, the first one coming up November 3. He's convinced everything is fine again, but when I put the big question to him it was good getting this candid response.

**"Look Bill, if the knee begins hurtin' again I'll quit."** He patted his leg affectionately and said with a shy smile. **"If it hurts I'll stop fighting. I don't wanna hafta' get another leg."**

# Beau Scores KO in Comeback Bow

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

ST. LOUIS—(NNPA) — Hitting the comeback trail, Beau Jack, former lightweight champion, knocked out Humberto Zavala. of Mexico, a trial horse, in four rounds here, Monday night. Beau knocked Zavala down eight times, including the final knock down and knock out.

Beau Jack

Beau himself slipped and fell twice during the action. His left leg seemed to have been bothering him from the injured knee which compelled him to take a rest of ten months.

Sat 11-15-47

Zavala went down from a terrific right thirty-five seconds after the fight started. He got up and fought back. In the second round he hit the floor three times, once for a count of four, for no count, and again for a count of four.

Beau sent him to the canvas twice in the third, with a left to the jaw for a count of nine and again for a count of eight. In the final session Zavala was knocked down for a count of nine, but he came back fighting. He hit the canvas again and took the final count with only ten seconds of the round remaining.

## Perform Operation On Beau Jack's Knee

The Times New York, N.Y.

Beau Jack, former lightweight champion of the world, underwent an operation on his left knee yesterday at St. Clare's Hospital. The fighter, whose leg collapsed under him in the fourth round of his bout with Tony Janiro at Madison Square Garden on Friday night, was reported resting comfortably after the operation. 2-23-47 Sun.

Dr. Vincent A. Nardiello, who, together with Dr. William Healy, operated on Jack, explained that the boxer had suffered a fracture of the patella and a rupture of the quadriceps muscle and the patella ligaments. He will wear a cast for from two to four weeks, and may be discharged in ten days.

Commenting on Jack's ring future, Dr. Nardiello said that if all things turn out as favorably as they appeared yesterday, the Beau would probably be able to fight again after a rest of at least ten months.

## Golden Goose

Chicago, Ill. Time 3-3-47 mon.

Beau Jack did a little tap dance to convince the two doctors from the New York State Athletic Commission that his kneecap—broken only three months ago—was mended. They were convinced—too easily. Everybody wanted Beau Jack to fight. The ex-shoeshine boy had pulled more cash customers ($1,400,000 in gate receipts) into Madison Square Garden in 18 main events than any other boxer. In the fourth round last week against Tony Janiro, Beau tried to duck a left hook, and his kneecap cracked again, in five places.

Beau Jack, 25, twice the world's lightweight champion, was game. He braced himself on his good leg, tried to slug it out. The second time he went down, he stayed there, helpless. The referee and Tony's manager (*see cut*), helped Beau from the ring, his face clearly showing his agony. Had the promoters, anxious to cash in on a good thing, killed the golden goose? Oh, no, said one doctor; Beau could be patched up once more, in "ten months to a year, if no complications develop."

# New Injury May End Ring Career for Georgia Ace

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 3-1-47

### Ohio Boxer Halts the Beau in Feature Welterweight Brawl Before 18,000 Fans

By RICHARD DIER

NEW YORK — "It's a tough break. A real tough break. He'll have to rest a long time, maybe a year."

Thus moaned Chick Wergeles, Beau Jack's manager as his protege lay writhing in pain at St. Clare's Hospital, following his fourth round knockout at the hands of Tony Janiro here Friday night at Madison Square Garden.

A crowd of 18,062 gave the defeated probably the greatest ovation in defeat than he ever received in victory.

**First Ring Mishap**

This was the first time in his long and spectacular career that the Beau failed to leave the ring under his own steam.

Dr. Vincent Nardiello, commissions physician, who operated on Beau Jack's knee late Saturday said it would be six months or longer before it can be known whether the Beau can ever fight again. Sat. 3-1-47

Dr. Sym Newman, who examined the Beau's knee prior to the bout on Monday, said there was no new break in the kneecap. Instead the ligament that holds the knee joint together parted. The operation is intended to give Beau Jack a new hinge for his knee.

Prior to the sudden end, Beau had absorbed a merciless beating from the Youngstown youngster, particularly in the final stanza. He was knocked half through the ropes by a flurry of lefts to the nose and head, and as the boxers moved to a corner, he went down, rolled over and sat up.

**Took Eight Count**

He took a count of eight and struggled to regain his feet. He was plainly in terrific pain and couldn't straighten out his leg. Referee Joseph rushed in and was about to call a halt to the bout. The Beau refused and insisted on continuing, so the referee motioned to Janiro to continue.

Tony came in and landed another dozen punches to Beau's face and he went down to the canvas again. Without starting a count again, Joseph called a halt to the one-sided contest and helped picked Beau up, after which he was carried to his corner.

In the first round, Beau rushed from his corner in his usual fashion, throwing leather in all directions. Janiro retreated before the attack and Beau landed lefts and rights to his head at will. Some of the cuffs Tony received on his ears almost had him staggering. However, he recovered and began to outbox the Beau and trade blows with him. Jack has a shade the better of the round.

The second stanza marked the beginning of the end as Tony took the play away and jabbed Beau's face and nose with rights and lefts. Throwing caution to the wind and trying desperately for a kayo, the Beau chased Janiro all over the ring, uncorking wild lefts to Janiro's head and making him cover up.

Janiro took all this and came back with a series of heavy rights that had Beau helpless and half through the ropes. The fans roared as he almost went down. Jack was completely at Janiro's mercy as the bell rang.

The third round was similar to the second, with Beau again trying to end the fight with a lucky punch, and Janiro outboxing and outpunching him at will. Beau looked very confused and couldn't keep away from his opponent's blows. Sat. 3-1-47

Then came the fourth and final round, in which Beau, knowing he was a beaten man, tried his best until his leg broke again.

Beau's injury was similar to the one he suffered several months ago. He had undergone an operation on the leg and was pronounced fit by the Commission's medicos. A few days before the fight, he told the AFRO at Stillman's gym that it had healed completely and that he was in top shape. However, he wasn't okay, as the results show.

The Beau weighed 141 to Janiro's 147¾. Acrowd of 18,062 opured $98,053 into the Garden's tills.

SHADOW-BOXES IN BED

# Trainer Says Warning About Beau Jack's Knee Was Ignored

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 3-8-47

(Special to the AFRO)

NEW YORK—In a large sunny room of St. Clare's Hospital on W. 51st St., filled with candy, flowers and hundreds of telegrams from his ring admirers, Beau Jack disclosed that he will take a year's rest from the ring and once his injured knee mends, will put on the gloves again and take on all comers.

The Georgian smiled heartily when a reporter informed him that thousands who saw him collapse in the fourth round of his 10-rounder with Tony Janiro two weeks ago at Madison Square Garden believed him "finished" as far as throwing leather was concerned. Then looking around the room at his trainer, Sid Belle, he told the AFRO:

"You know one of the first things I'm gonna do when I'm able to fight again will be to request a return match with Janiro because I know I can lick him. My present plans call for staying here for two more weeks and then heading for warm climate.

**Sure of Donning Gloves**

"The doctors tell me that plenty of sunshine and mud packs will give me a new knee. I think I'll go to Georgia or California for about ten months and I'm pretty sure I'll be able to fight by next year." Sat. 3-8-47

In 19 Garden appearances the former lightweight champion drew almost $1,500,000, a record for the house of sock. While Jack ate an apple from a huge basket sent by his recent conqueror, Janiro, and read a telegram from the present 135 pound king, Bob Montgomery, Belle said:

"I told Beau during our training period that I didn't think he should have taken that fight and even asked his manager, Chick Wergeles, to call it off as I knew his knee would give out under the pressure of active competition. My request fell on deaf ears and you see the results."

With the will and determination to lace on the gloves again many of Beau's friends believe that he will return to the squared circle with the same fighting heart that saw him twice win the title. Doctors at the hospital report that he constantly talks of nothing else but the ring, and even when they first visit him in the morning, he's sitting up in bed shadow boxing.

## Beau Leads Off With a KO

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. 11-5-47

**BEAU JACK** opened his comeback campaign with a four-round knockout over Humberto Zavala in St. Louis the other evening, flooring Zavala once in the first round, thrice in the second and twice in the fourth frame, the last one being a solid right to the jaw which spelled finis for the Mexican in 2:50. Beau has three more warmups on his schedule before asking for a Garden shot. I hope the little buzzsaw's bum knee holds up under him, even though I feel he shouldn't be given a license to fight again with the specter of permanent lameness hovering over his head every time he climbs through the ropes. But writers can only make suggestions which, more often than not, are ignored.

About the Zavala bout. The Mexican has rapidly become a trial-horse since he first burst upon the local scene with promise in 1944. An energetic and cagey battler, he lacks the overall finesse or punch to go anywhere and you'll find that his limited skill has deteriorated in alarming fashion. Such as Charley Fusari, Danny Bartfield, Ruby Kessler, Danny Webb, Joey Angelo and other club battlers have made things miserable for Zavala, and certainly Beau Jack, game knee and all, figured to improve on those performances.

Time and the continued exertions on Beau Jack's leg will be the risky test of whether or not he'll be able to recapture the heights. But, like I said, I wish he was in better hands, someone who'd have advised him to retire permanently. And, in the final analysis, maybe some day there'll be Boxing Commissions and Boxing Commission doctors who can see further than their corrupt noses.

**Until then, good luck, Beau, and here's hoping for the best.**

## "Money Ain't Everything"

Time, Chicago, Ill.

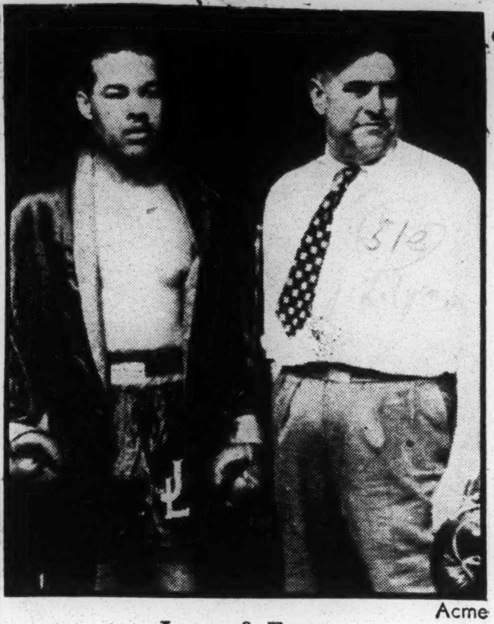
Even at 32, a little past his prime, Joe Louis was still too good for his own good. There wasn't an able-bodied challenger in sight. And Big Joe's top-heavy expenses went on & on. Mon. 3-3-47

In Detroit alone, for a time he had supported 27 relatives. The phlegmatic, and always proper, big fellow the photographers and white folks saw was not the Joe Louis that Harlem knew. Away from his own people, he was always conscientious about being a credit to his race. Harlem knew him as a man sometimes angry and sometimes moody—but also a fellow who could relax, laugh his head off, throw expensive parties. He was the softest touch in town. His friends told him that hangers-on sometimes "borrowed" up to $50 from Joe's pants while he was taking a bath, but Joe didn't seem to mind. Said he: "Money ain't everything, unless a poor guy ain't got it." Once when a crony told Joe that he wanted to put on an all-Negro show, Joe reached mechanically for his checkbook, asked his friend, "Will $1,000 do?"

In twelve years in boxing's big time (ten years as heavyweight champion) Joe has grossed $2,815,000. Taxes have taken a lot, but so has his investing: everything he has touched (notable exceptions: his annuity and three Chicago apartment houses) seemed to turn to red ink. Among others, there was the Brown Bomber softball team ($30,000 loss), a Detroit restaurant called the Brown Bomber Chicken Shack (about $15,000), a Michigan dude ranch ($25,000), and his flyer last fall in West Coast pro football ($7,500). He gets about 350 fan letters a week, mostly from women, and mostly wanting money. Time Chicago, Ill.

Six weeks ago, Joe's handlers, unable to find him someone to fight, got to thinking of all the unexplored territory outside the U.S. where people might pay just to see Joe flex his muscles. Joe put on his best deadpan mask for the benefit of strangers, and headed for Latin America. At Mexico City, in an exhibition, he carefully pulled his punches for ten rounds against Arturo Godoy, who had once lasted 15 rounds in the ring against Joe. Both got booed (fans who knowingly pay to see an "exhibition" hopefully expect to see a fight), but Joe got his $50,000 guarantee.

Last week in Godoy's native Chile, Big Joe boxed him again. This time he hit so hard that it ceased to look like an exhibition. Twice, Godoy's knees turned rubbery and he sank to the floor. He was so groggy by the second round that he accidentally landed a haymaker on the referee, Argentina's onetime wonder, Luis ("Wild Bull of the Pampas") Firpo. Said Joe Louis' business manager contentedly, after picking up another $15,000 for a night's work: "Should we decide to go to Australia and Europe, Joe will wind up with a half million dollars in exhibition purses which, of course, is not hay." Mon. 3-3-47



Acme

LOUIS & FIRPO
*A one-way haymaker.*

## WAS JOE KIDDING OR NOT?

Afro-American

If Joe Louis fibbed to us about not having remarried Marva in Mexico last February, it must have been a gentleman's fib (i.e., a falsehood a gentleman is bound to tell because it involves a lady). Baltimore, Md.

When we asked him last February to confirm or deny reports that he and Marva had made up, he denied them.

When rumors reported that she occupied his New York apartment before the Tami Mauriello fight last fall, he said again that there was nothing to it. Sat. 6-21-47

Now there is every evidence that the Louises have made up and lived lovey-dovey together last August and September after Joe put Tami to sleep with a K.O. punch.

There is something very mysterious about the whole thing, especially since Joe, who is everybody's hero, is usually very frank and open about most things.

Last August, Marva gave up a motion picture role because of "throat trouble." The real reason probably was that she wanted to devote more time to Joe.

If Joe and Marva can make it, we will be glad. A reconciliation beats a divorce any day. Sat. 6-21-47

Louisville, Ky.

Courier-Journal

Associated Press Wirephoto.

Joe Louis, Jr., 16 days old, is shown off proudly by Marva Louis, wife of the world heavyweight champion, in Mexico City. Little Joe, 8½ pounds, was born there May 28. Once-divorced Joe and Marva remarried secretly last July. Sat. 6-14-47

**Will Distribute Pictures**

# Joe Louis Featured by Makers of Chesterfields

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

Sat. 5-31-47

Starting May 17, the makers of Chesterfield cigarettes made history by featuring Joe Louis' endorsement of Chesterfields in the largest series of newspaper advertisements ever to appear in the Negro press from a major cigarette company.

This marks the beginning of the use of Negro athletic stars in such endorsements. Although the endorsement does not state at any time that Joe Louis is a smoker of Chesterfields, it definitely points out his endorsement of this brand for use by his friends. The advertisement feature is calling attention to the statistical sales facts, pointing out that Chesterfield is one of the largest selling cigarettes in America.

**NEW PLAN**

The makers of Chesterfield have developed a new plan of merchandising which entails distribution of an oil painting of Joe Louis by the internationally famous artist, Elmore J. Brown, in full color. These pictures will be distributed by all of the major Chesterfield retail outlets in Negro sections throughout the country, to customers who desire them for their individual use in their homes, club rooms, barber shops, gymnasiums, and other places.

This painting shows Joe Louis in excellent fighting stance, and is of such quality that the makers of Chesterfield feel that everyone will be proud to have a copy. The painting will be available by July 15.

In this series of releases Joe Louis is being featured on a par with all other national sports stars in the parade of stars which this company is sponsoring nationally. This marks an advance in advertising never before known. Inasmuch as Joe Louis is not a smoker himself, this endorsement has been handled beautifully, for it gets over to the public a message from The Champ without in any way implicating or inferring that he is a cigarette smoker, eliminating any idea of deception on the part of The Champ in this endorsement. Sat. 5-31-47

You will see many more of this series of advertisements in this, your favorite newspaper, THE PITTSBPRGH COURIER.

## Joe Louis Sues for Grid Losses

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

LOS ANGELES, Calif. (NNPA) — Heavyweight champion Joe Louis, through Marshall Miles, one of his managers, charged last Friday that Promoter Harry Hall had gypped him of $6,300 in a football promotion scheme last January, and obtained a bench warrant for Hall's arrest. Sat. 4-19-47

Louis said he gave Hall the money to arrange an all-star football game last Jan. 12 after Hall agreed to refund the money if he could not obtain the services of Felix Blanchard and Glen Davis, the Army's touchdown twins.

Blanchard and Davis failed to show up and the game was never played, but Hall has not returned the money, Louis said. Sat. 4-19-47

The proposed game was the one in which Buddy Young, the Illinois flash, was to have made his debut as a professional. Young left school to make the trip and was later suspended a year even though he did not play in a professional game.

# Louis Turns Down June Title Fight

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

## Champ Announces Plan to Quit After Two More Title Fights

Sat. 5-3-47

NEW YORK—Joe Louis snuffed out all chances of a heavyweight title bout this summer, here Thursday, when he vetoed plans to match him with either Melio Bettina or Jersey Joe Walcott at a conference at the offices of the 20th Century Sporting Club.

Louis turned down flat an offer of $200,000 to meet Walcott, then refused to sign for a bout with Bettina. He based his refusal on what he termed the unfitness of both as challengers for the crown.

Shortly after he had advised Sol Strauss, representing the ailing Mike Jacobs, that he would not fight in June, Louis announced that he would engage in only two more bouts before retiring.

The heavywegiht champion said that he positively would not fight anyone until he had proved his merit as a contender for the crow. eH then said that there would "definitely" be only two more fifths for him, the first in September. Sat. 5-3-47

**Baksi Left Out**

Although Joe Baki, winners this month over Bruce Woodcock of England, indicated that he might be willing to box Joe in September, the Klupmont, Pa., woodchopper was not included in the plans which Strauss began to lay after failing to sign the Bomber.

Strauss said that he proposed to match Bettina and Light-heavyweight Champion Gus Lesnevich in an elimination contest, the winner to meet Joe for the crown in September. Louis, however, declarig that he did not wish to deprive anyone of a rightful chance

at the title, inissted that the winner of a June bout between Walcott and Joey Maxim be considered in the running.

Walcott ad Maxim are slated to box i Los Angeles uder the promitio of Frank Sinatra.

Strauss promised that he would match the two winners of these bouts, and then offer the survivor to Joe.

# Wants to Meet Baksi Before Shelving Mitts

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

## European, Australian Tour Planned; Will See New-Born Son Next Month

Sat. 6-28-47

SPOKANE, Wash.—(ANP)—Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis is seriously considering retirement from the boxing game while he still holds the world's title, according to Fred Sommers, the Brown Bomber's representative in the current exhibition tour through the West.

Louis, who on Sunday, June 22, se an all-time record of 10 years as reigning king of the world's heavyweight fighters, will seek to emulate Gene Tunney by retiring an undefeated champion. His retirement is scheduled for some time in 1948.

Several reasons dictate his stepping out of active participation in the fight business. For one thing Joe is now 33, an age at which most fighters are considered "senile" for fistic purposes.

**Still Overshadows Fistiana**

This is despite the fact that he still overshadows any other heavy weight in sight. It has been almost a year since his last fight, in which he kayoed Tami Mauriello.

Then, too, there is a matter of paying off the government from his winnings in fight contests. Joe reasons, according to business associates, that he can "cut corners" on the taxation if he goes into the exhibition field in foreign countries.

Confirming this latter opinion. Sommers said that Louis would wind up his reign as champion by swapping punches in exhibition matches in Australia and Europe next year. However, Joe will deny that he is through—just now—as an actual ring combatant.

**May Meet Joe Baksi**

It has been rumored that he will appear against Joe Baksi in September, and Joe himself has said he would fight again this summer and once more next year before retiring.

Right now, he is looking around for new business ventures. He can continue making exhibition tours and at the same time can command good money as a touring referee. In addition, he can expand his activity in the insurance business.

Another factor in his proposed retirement is the fact that as un defeated champion, his earning power would remain good, while without the crown, he would lose most of his drawing power instantly.

Meanwhile, from Mexico City, the champ's wife, Marva Louis, announced that Joe would get his first view of their newly born son in Chicago on July 2. The baby Joe Louis, Jr., was dubbed as Peso Completo (heavyweight), by nurses, because of the 11½ pounds he weighed at his birth on May 28.

Sat. 6-28-47

Marva said that Joe has already started calling the baby Little Joe and that he was anxious to know what the youngster was like. The baby will be christened after their arrival in Chicago. Jacqueline, the couple's four-year-old daughter, is with Marva.

Following Louis's return to Chicago, he will go to New York on July 15 to discuss possibilities of a September championsip match.

### "See Me First," Baksi

STOCKHOLM, Sweden—Joe Baksi of Kulpmont, Pa., here to fight Ole Tanberg, Swedish heavyweight, is considering retiring from the ring in 1949.

"But," said Baksi, "I would like to fight Joe Louis for the world title before I retire."

Sat. 6-28-47

### Louis to Meet Bob Foxworth July 7

CHICAGO — (ANP)—World Champion Joe Louis will exchange blows with Bob Foxworth, designated as the heavyweight champion of Illinois by the State Athletic Commission, in a four-round exhibition match at Comiskey Park, July 7, according to promoter Fred Irvin.

The Louis-Foxworth tilt takes the place of an earlier scheduled match between Louis and Ezzard Charles of Cincinnatti at Wrigley Field on the same date.

# Joe a Champ 10 Years

## Is Greatest Champion in History

Afro-American Magazine

## Defended His Crown in 24 Ring Bouts

Baltimore, Md.

By SAM LACY

IN THE MIDST of a California vacation, Joe Louis permitted the tenth anniversary of his acquisition of the world heavyweight championship to pass unnoticed.

It is typical of the droll destroyer to ignore momentous occasions He has never appeared over-enthusiastic about the reaching or passing of another milestone in his great and glorious career.

For did he not joke on the night of his second meeting with Max Schmeling, the only man who ever defeated him?

Did he not pass approximately one million dollars into the coffers of the Army and Navy relief funds without so much as the blink of an eye? Sat. 6-28-47

**Slept Peacefully**

And did he not sleep through the minutes leading up to the second Conn fight, when the world around him was visualizing the loss of his most prized possession—the title?

*Sunday — June 22nd — marked the passing of a decade of the reign of Louis I.*

Ten years earlier, on that date. he had seized the throne by overthrowing Jim Braddock, who had succeeded such monarchs as Corbett and Jeffries to rule as James III.

Since that historic day in Chicago the Brown Bomber has established himself as the greatest heavyweight king in the thrill-clogged annals of the prize fight ring.

**24 Contenders**

His tenure on the top rung of the ladder has extended longer than that of any man in history: he has defended the crown against 24 pretenders, more than twice as many as were ever met by any of his predecessors.

JOE LOUIS

He has never refused to meet a capable opponent, has never asked any quarter, has never taken unfair advantage of the opposition.

In addition, Louis, born on an Alabama cotton plantation, has dispatched his challengers in faster time than did anyone before him. Sat. 6-28-47

In baseball, they'd call it the pitcher's earned-run average. In boxing there's no name for it, but the principle is the same.

Over a period of 24 bouts, Louis has boxed 151 rounds, meaning that he has knocked out his rivals in an average of 6.34 rounds. Nearest to him in this respect is Jack Dempsey, who took 6.5 rounds to dispose of each of his foemen.

**Dempsey Met Only 6**

But Dempsey, with all the hullabaloo about his greatness, met only six challengers during his seven-year reign.

Tommy Burns defended his title 10 times, and averaged kayos at the rate of 8.4 rounds per man; Max Schmeling took 9.5 rounds to stop each of his two contenders; Gene Tunney met three challengers, averaged 10.3 rounds against them; Max Baer needed 11 rounds to topple the foe in his lone successful defense.

Jim Jeffries's opponents in seven titular bouts remained upright for 12 rounds; Jack Johnson's six stayed with him the same number of heats; so did Primo Carnera's three, and James J. Corbett's two.

Jack Sharkey and Jim Braddock needed 15 rounds each, and Jess Willard required 26, even to lift the title from the brow of Johnson. He never defended with success.

On last Sunday, Louis was 10 years older and wiser than when he achieved the heavyweight crown. And the amazing thing about the whole story is that there isn't a single man on the horizon who looks to be any part of a worthy successor.

# HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION TO MAKE APPEARANCES ABROAD

Joe Louis as he signed a contract yesterday to be seen at the Health and Holiday Exhibition in London. With him are Beverly R. Myles (left), attorney representing the show, and Marshall Miles, the fighter's manager.

# Louis Not To Defend World's Boxing Championship In 1947

Montgomery, Ala. Advertiser
Wed. 7-16-47 51e

By JACK HAND

NEW YORK, July 15.—(AP)—Joe Louis and his board of strategy surveyed the mediocre heavyweight stock pile today and announced that the champion would not defend his title in 1947.

Cancellation of a tentatively scheduled Sept. 19 Yankee Stadium bout for the Brown Bomber was announced following a three-way conference of Louis, his manager Marshall Miles, of Buffalo, and Sol Strauss, acting for the ailing promoter Mike Jacobs.

Louis, however, will not be permitted to rust in the inactive list as two non-title 10-round scraps inside Madison Square Garden will keep him busy during the Fall and Winter.

The winner of the July 25 Ezzard Charles-Elmer (Violet) Ray bout is the likely opponent of Louis in a Nov. 14 match and Ollie Tandberg, the Swedish heavyweight who upset Joe Baksi, may be the foe in mid-March of 1948. Wed. 7-16-47

It is possible, under New York State Athletic Commission rules, for Louis to appear in 10-round scraps without risking his crown because all title fights in this state must be over the 15-round route.

The champion summed up the current heavyweight picture, bluntly and accurately when he commented in Chicago after the Tandberg's victory over Baksi, "I don't see how the public would pay more than 15 cents to see a champion fight in which the contenders pop out of nowhere like Tandberg.

Baksi had been in line for the September shot although he played hard to get and refused an "opportunity" to meet Joe in June. The Qax-Beer Hall bouncer from Kulpmont, Penn., was too busy touring Europe to meet Louis at that time. After he was decisioned by the unknown Swede, nobody cared.

Louis, who has eliminated one contender after another in his 10-year reign since he stopped Jimmy Braddock in 1937, has not been able to work up much excitement about the current crop of big boys. Neither has the public. Wed. 7-16-47

51e 1947 Joe Louis (General)

*John McNulty*

# Undermining Of Joe Louis

P.M. New York, N.Y.

They's undermining Joe Louis. I don't know who's doing it, whether it is John Roxborough and Marshall Miles and those fellows around him, or if it is Sol Strauss, the boss at the 20th Century Sporting Club, or who it is. But somebody is making him say things he didn't think up himself, and things that he probably doesn't even believe. He never did that before, so I think they're undermining him, making a sap or a stooge out of a fellow who was one of the greatest, most decent men in the world for a long, long time. P.M. New York, N.Y.

This is not only bad and sickening, but it is also as silly as a two-cent watch.

I have an idea Joe Louis was tired of this whole fight game at least two years ago. Still, being champ is something an inherently proud man doesn't let go of easily. Just the same, whenever we've seen him in the last 10 years—up to the last couple of weeks—there was a kind of racehorse pride about him, a poise and an almost silent directness of bearing. I don't quite know how to describe it.

### *Too Shifty For the Champ* 12-16-47

Then he made a mess out of fighting Joe Walcott. I don't think the reasons were complex. Walcott was too shifty for him, that's all, and I'm one of those who thought Walcott won the fight. And after it Louis told Walcott, when the decision was announced, "I'm sorry, Joe." (That phrase has already gone down in history with, "Say it ain't true, Joe," of baseball annals.)

Well, you already knew all that I've just said. What's beginning to burn me up, and make me sick to my stomach (a parlay of ailments that may knock me off) is all this mulligatawney now about Louis fighting Gus Lesnevich, and Joe Louis more or less taking back what he said right after the final bell had sounded.

Somebody's teaching Joe Louis a script to recite, and he never was little, or subservient, or grasping enough before this to speak out anything that wasn't thought up, slowly perhaps, but with marvelously simple exactitude, by Joe Louis. They've got him making little speeches for the sake of the box office, and that's enough to give anyone a pain in the gluteus maximus.

Nobody with sense can get sore about all those people around Louis and Walcott wanting to make as much dough as they can. The principal object of the game is to make dough; it couldn't be simpler than that. But let Miles, and Roxborough, and Bocchichio (Walcott's owner) make the box office speeches. It's pitiful to see punies making dummies out of men like Louis and Walcott. Walcott proved himself quite a man in that ring, too. He was no more afraid of Louis than I am of Sadie Hawkins, maybe less. 12-16-47

Granted there's something in my notion that Louis has been sick of this prizefight business for a couple of years, then you can't blame him either for wanting to catch hold of one great big final chunk of money for the June fight, then be done with the whole business. "I want to fight who brings in the most money," he said.

### *Walcott Only One For Louis to Fight*

That one sentence, anyway, sounds like him, but this business of his putting forth Gus Lesnevich as the man he should fight is nonsense. It is such a childlike, infantile transparency, a kiddish maneuver to make Walcott's business managers come into line and take a lesser cut than, according to them, they were promised, which is 30 per cent of the gate, with 30 per cent for Louis.

Walcott is the only man for Louis to fight next June, and as Red Smith of the *Herald Tribune* has already said with enviable brevity: "Everybody knows it."

The blather about that coming fight in June is going to be nauseating from now on. The first thing they know, the whole lot of them, the 20th Century Sporting Club, John Roxborough, Marshall Miles, Bocchichio, manager Joe Webster and all of them, will wake up some day and read here that I have decided not to attend the fight at all and am sending back my Annie Oakley. I guess that will break their hearts in itty-bitty pieces and teach them a damned good lesson once and for all!

# Wendell Smith's Sports Beat

POMPTON LAKES, N. J.—They say that the way to a man's heart is through his stomach. Courier

**One person who believes that old proverb is portly Bill Bottoms, who hails from Chicago, and has been Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis' chef ever since Aug. 18, 1935. No one in the Louis entourage is closer to the Brown Bomber than Bottoms. That is probably because Louis realizes that food is the most important item in any conditioning program.**

During the twelve years Bottoms has been Louis' chef, he has prepared approximately 1,500 meals for the champion. Bill takes great pride in his work and vows that when Louis hangs up his gloves, he is quitting the culinary business. Pittsburgh, Pa.

**"We've come a long way together," Bottoms said yesterday while preparing Louis' dinner here at his training camp, "and when he quits fighting I'm through with this business. One reason is because I know I never could find ano[illegible] easy to work for."**

Contrary to popular belief, the heavyweight champion is not a big eater. Sat. 12-6-47

**"When I first started cooking for him in 1935," Bottoms said, "he was a pretty good boarder, but he was young then and still growing. Now he eats less than the average man."**

Bottoms owns a tavern at 3504 State Street in Chicago and is there every day, except of course when he goes to training camp with Louis. He has also "put the soup on" for Ray (Sugar) Robinson and Henry Armstrong.

**Years ago he owned the famous Dreamland Cafe, an emporium of jump music and where such great musicians as Louis Armstrong first got started. When he wasn't operating night clubs Bottoms was promoting auto races at the Hawthorne race track.**

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Bill declares that Louis' nerves are made of iron and steel.

**"I never will forget when we were training for the second Schmeling fight," he said smiling. "We received several threatening letters written in red ink, telling Joe he would be killed at the ringside if he beat Schmeling."**

"We tried to keep the mail away from him, but one day Joe was standing at the door when the mail man came. He opened the first letter and it was one of those threatening ones. 12-6-47

**"We were all upset about it. We figured it might have an effect on his fighting. But they didn't bother Joe one bit. He finished Schmeling in one round."**

Returning to the subject of food, Bottoms said the champion is never finicky about his meals. "All I have to do is get the food ready and he'll sit down and eat."

**Bill said, "I give him the food that has the most nourishment, such as lamb, veal chops, and cutlets, steaks, baked white potatoes, green beans, raw carrots and fresh fruit."** Sat.

"Joe's last meal on the day of a fight is always his best," Bill explained. "That meal always has more starch than any of his previous meals, a little fattening and other things that will give him strength.

### *The Last Meal Important . . .*

**That last meal is a mighty important one. Here is what the champion puts away, before doing same to his opponent:**

Tomato or mushroom soup, celery, olives, thick boiled steak, creamed carrots, lettuce, tomato salad and tea. He does not have dessert.

**After the fight he usually eats a quart of vanilla ice cream.**

There is one thing Louis always demands on that last menu. It is the only request he makes all the time he is in training and Bottoms never fails to have it for him.

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**"Joe insists on having black-eyed peas included in that final meal," Bill said laughingly. "Sometimes they are hard to get but I always manage.**

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**Joe looked at me and smiled, and then said: "It's a good thing you found them, because if you didn't have them for me I couldn't win the fight.**

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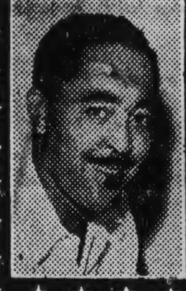

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## JACK SAUNDERS — Some Louis Fine Points

PHILADELPHIA — When Champion Joe Louis steps into the Madison Square Garden ring Friday, Dec. 5, to defend his crown against "Jersey Joe" Walcott, it will be his twenty-third title defense.

Joe's twenty-two victims represented every type of fighter known to boxing, and only two of them were fortunate enough to last the distance—Tommy Farr and Arturo Godoy. The most sensational knockout scored by Louis during his reign was the one scored over Schmeling in the second fight. And the greatest number of persons to see Louis defend his crown attended the Schmeling fight. There were 80,000 of them. 11-22-47 Sat.

The most humane knockout scored by Louis was the first-round triumph over John Henry Lewis . . . And his most dangerous challenger was Tony Galento, who put Joe on the floor. His easiest fight was the second Conn fight which also drew the largest gate, $1,952,564. The smallest gate was $45,000, when 10,500 fans saw him stop Henry Thomas in five rounds. Sat. 11-22-47

**CHAMPION'S KISS** is bestowed by Joe Louis on Mrs. Ernest Bush at a Chicago wedding reception. The bridegroom is a good friend of Louis' and a public-relations man for a brewing company. With Louis he will soon start promoting a beverage, "The Joe Louis Punch." Considering Louis' recent fight with Joe Walcott, the drink is not expected to have much kick.

## To Joe Louis

By ANDY RAZAF
(For ANP)

The crowd's in your camp because
you're the champ
But the crowd is a fickle thing,
They'll toast you today, but
tomorrow they
Will boast of a brand new king.
Why keep going on 'til your magic
is gone
When out of the ring you'll climb
(Not beaten by the other guy)
But defeated by Father Time?

You should leave while the cheers
are still in your ears,
Step down while you rule the
game,
Or the time will come when they'll
call you a bum,
And boo at the sound of your
name!

# WATCHING THE PARADE

by Ralph Matthews

The toughest opponent Joe Louis has had to fight in all of his ring battles is not the hapless gentlemen who face him in the flesh, but the shadow of his former self.

Ever since the Brown Bomber rose to fame as the hardest slugger in the pugilistic profession, he has always entered the ring at a disadvantage.

The other fellow, regardless of who he happens to be, is given credit far beyond his just deserts if he manages to stay erect beyond the first few rounds and is still on his feet at the final bell.

### Hailed as Miracle

He is always hailed as a miracle man and Joe is berated as a bum for permitting a challenger to hold his own. 12-27-47

This is unfair to the champ. The idea, as I understand it, is that Joe won the championship and has held it beyond all shadow of a doubt for the past ten years.

But Joe is human. He cannot possibly be the same man he was ten years ago, but everybody expects him to be, and raises a howl if he is not.

Millions are now ready to hand the championship over to Challenger Jersey Joe Walcott because the champ failed to vanquish him early in the contest and besides took a good drubbing in the bargain. 12-27-47 Sat.

### Joe's Job

But Joe was simply on the defensive. As champion, his job, as I see it, is to keep the other fellow from knocking him out.

If he does this and is still on his feet at the end of the contest he is still champ on my books regardless of how many times he hits the canvas.

The more he is knocked down and keeps coming back to prove his ability to take it, the greater champ he is.

There is nothing technical about this argument. It has nothing to do with the rules of round-scoring on points.

It is just plain common sense. It is not the duty of a champion to chase a challenger all around the ring, trying to catch him, as Joe has been forced to do in more than 60 per cent of his battles.

### Challenger's Job

If a challenger wants the championship belt which Joe has, he should go in there and fight for it, not force the champ to do all the offensive fighting. Joe is the defender.

The challenger has nothing that the champ wants or needs.

If the champ never struck a blow, he would still be champ so long as he protected himself and prevented the blows of the challenger from being too damaging.

Mr. Walcott, who gave a splendid exhibition, was certainly in an unfortunate and hardly enviable position.

He proved himself every inch a man, far superior to most of the white hopes who have met Joe during the past, but the harder he fought the further he degenerated in the eyes of his own race.

### A Traiter From Within?

He was not a hero pounding his way to victory over a member of the master race, opening new vistas and shattering anew the myth of racial superiority.

He was almost a traitor within the gates tearing down an idol and crushing a symbol of hope around which millions had rallied and in which millions found inspiration and psychological escape.

Even if he had won, as some think he did, he would have been a champion with reservations.

He would have been a stepchild in our household. He is a far better man in defeat than he could possibly have been in victory.

Today, we place him on a pedestal side by side with the champ. Today, instead of one, we have two men of equal merit.

### Hothouse Champion

Yesterday, Walcott was just another stumblebum. His victory would have made him a hothouse champion.

His emergence would have been too sudden to be accepted with good grace. The next time they meet we will know what to expect.

We will be prepared to say, "The king is dead, long live the king!"

# LESNEVICH TO FIGHT FOX AGAIN MARCH 5

### Louis Bout Looms for Winner of Light Heavyweight Title Match in Garden Ring

Times Wed. 12-17-47

Gus Lesnevich's next defense of his world light-heavyweight title will be against the challenger he last knocked out in championship fray, if present plans materialize.

Announcement was made yesterday by Sol Strauss of the Twentieth Century Sporting Club that he was about to close a return bout between Lesnevich and Billy Fox, Philadelphia Negro, at Madison Square Garden on March 5.

Joe Vella, manager of Lesnevich, accepted terms in a conference with Promoter Strauss. By telephone to Philadelphia the title chance was offered to Frank Palermo, manager of Fox, who demurred over a minor percentage point, but subsequently announced the match.

Last February 28 Lesnevich retained his title by knocking out Fox in ten rounds at the Garden, interrupting a string of forty-three straight victories for the challenger and inflicting the one defeat on Fox's record in fifty-one ring engagements. Fox has won all other bouts by knockouts.

Unmistakably Strauss regards the March title bout as a qualifying one for a crack at the heavyweight crown, should an emergency arise. Joe Louis, world heavyweight champion, openly declared recently he would anticipate more trouble from a puncher like Lesnevich than he would from Jersey Joe Walcott, despite the announced plan to rematch Louis and Walcott outdoors here in June.

Louis formally signed contracts for his London appearances in connection wtih the Health and Holiday Exhibition Feb. 28-March 29. Accompanied by his manager, Marshall Miles, Louis went through the ceremony in the office of Attorney Beverly R. Myles, representing the English promoters. Louis plans to sail for England Feb. 19 and, after two sparring exhibitions in London, intend to return here to start training in mid-April for the June bout.

# All doesn't seem to be peaches and cream with Louises despite bundle from heaven

Los Angeles, Calif. Tribune

Sat. 6-14-47

Judging by outward appearances, all doesn't seem to be peaches and cream with the Joe Louises, despite the bundle from heaven which arrived Friday, May 28.

Weighing in at 11½ pounds, the youngster was born in a Mexico City hospital, and was named Joe Louis Jr. Nurses at the hospital, however, call him "Peso Completo" (heavyweight).

**Chilling the nationwide joy in the birth of a son to the heavyweight champion was the apparent coldness between the couple who were remarried, Louis announced when news of the youngster's arrival was made public last Friday, in July of 1946.**

Louis, who has been fighting exhibition bouts, refereeing, and doing other boxing chores in between golfing in and around Los Angeles, did not rush to Mexico City, as a beaming public expected, to see his new son.

He was prideful in his announcements, however, made from San Diego last Saturday when he said he would join his wife in Chicago when his exhibition and a referee chore in Albuquerque are done.

**The champion said he had already started taking care of his son . . . the hospital had already sent him the bill.**

Sat. 6-14-47

"They don't waste a bit of time, do they?" he said.

From Mrs. Louis, however, the reports were a bit ominous. The United Press Tuesday reported her as refusing "comment on Louis' statements that they had been remarried last July after having been divorced in 1945".

Too tired to see anyone at present, Mrs. Louis, through her nurse, said "she will have a statement for the press next Friday", the U. P. said.

The champion's wife, the former Marva Trotter of Chicago, has moved from the hospital where her son was born to a fashionable apartment in a quiet residental area of Mexico City, the U. P. said.

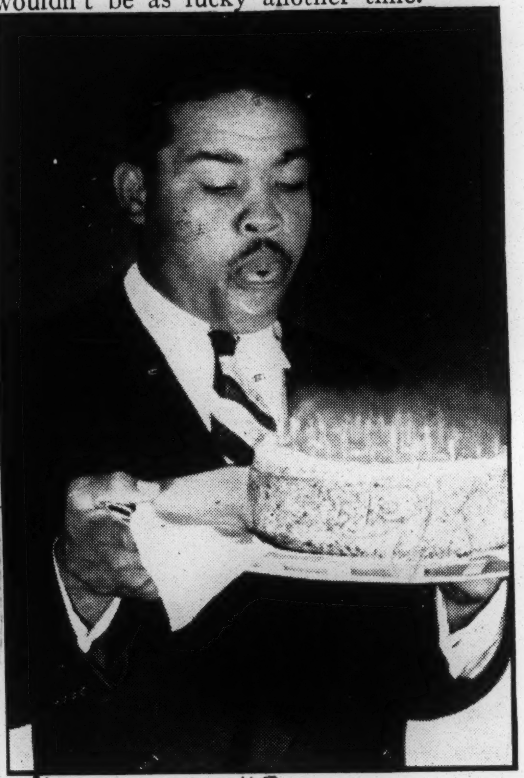
The Louises have one other child, a daughter, Jacqueline, now four.

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier Sat. 6-28-47

**Poised to Punch!**— Down in Mexico City, Mexico, Joe Louis Jr., son of the world's heavyweight champion is too drowsy to be bothered, but—as everyone can plainly see—he has that right fist cocked to ward off any interference with his slumber. It may be an omen of things to come twenty years hence. His mother and dad were remarried about a year ago in Indiana. Young Joe was born in the Mexican capital three weeks ago.—International News Photo.

Time Mon. 5-26-47

In Detroit, **Joe Louis** attained the age of 33, still whole in limb and wind (*see cut*). An interviewer asked the ancient champ if he wished he were 21 again. The answer was No: "I never had a cut eye, a busted ear, or nothing. . . . Maybe I wouldn't be as lucky another time."



Mon. 5-26-47

JOE LOUIS

## *BOMBER BROKE?—BALONEY!*

# Joe Louis Need Not Don Another Glove, He's Set for Life, Says John Roxborough

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 6-7-47

DETROIT — (ANP) — According to John Roxborough, Joe Louis's manager, the Brown Bomber will live comfortably "if he never pulls on another glove."

Even if he does not have a title fight this year, his income tax on his earnings and investments will total about $75,000. "And we plan to make that with another South American tour."

In order that rumors that Joe's broke might be dispelled once and for all, Roxborough listed the Brown Bomber's real estate holdings, annuities, trust funds and other connections, here last week.

Louis "owns two nice apartment buildings in Chicago," pointed out Roxborough. "One of them is an eight-family building and the other accommodates 23 families. Aside from that, he owns a home in Wayne, Mich., now occupied by his brother. The income from them alone should enable a fellow of means to live in comfort.

### Two Annuities

"He's got two paid-up annuities. In fact, they were to start paying off last year—when Joe was 32—but we had them changed to pay off when he is 40 years old. If he was broke and needed money badly, would he have held up the return from his annuities? And when they do start to pay, Joe will receive $600 a month for the rest of his life. Sat. 6-7-47

"He also has set up a trust fund for his mother. Out of that she gets $200 a month for her life. He also set up a trust fund for his daughter, Jacqueline, to take care of her education and other needs.

"He is an officer of the Superior Life Insurance Company and, after he retires from the ring, Joe can have an office there. He possibly will head one of the departments—at a nice salary.

"Then there is the Joe Louis punch, the new soft drink just on the market. We already have some 60 outlets and expect to boost this number to at least 300 by the end of the year. Joe's return from that is such that he already has been offered $50,000 a year for his share. He didn't sell, however. And his book, recently published, is bringing in a nice return. Sat. 6-7-47

"So, add those things up . . . and you will see that Joe is pretty well set—if he never pulls on another glove."

# Joe Louis: A man without a future, except in golf

Tribune Sat. 7-19-47

By ALOYSIUS TOO

New York Despondent

NEW YORK — After thinking it over, Joe Louis, manager Marshall Miles, the big brass of 20th Century Sporting club, and the elevator boy figured it wasn't worth the trouble nor the shame for the champion to climb into the ring with any of the heavyweights floating around today. They issued their joint statement to that effect this week: Mr. Louis will not engage in any title bout this year, due to the sudden lack of any suitable opponent.

That was that. Mr. Louis won't defend his title in 1947, due to a sudden (two-year-old) lack of opposition of the sort a champion does battle with. Sat. 7-19-47

However, probably at the practical suggestion of the elevator boy, who more than likely takes the up & downs of life in stride, Louis and his associates have decided that it would be in bad taste for him to be too much above it all, since the boys can't help being the bums they are. The obvious solution, now that Olle Tanberg had thoughtlessly upset 20th Century plans by showing up Kulpmont, Pa.'s Joe Baksi as a double-dyed palooka, was for Louis to take on one or two of the gazebos in non-title fights.

The others sitting around the pow-wow table evidently weighed the elevator boy's word for the wisdom, figured he had something, and took him up. Joe will fight a 10-rounder this year, probably in November, and more than likely against the winner of the Ezzard Charles-Elmer (ex-violent) Ray todo. Then somewhere around the first of next year he might show Tanberg how the Brown Bomber does thing up brown in his department. Los Angeles, Calif.

After that, quien sabe? It is generally conceded by the experts that if Louis will stick around for another decade or so they're sure there is some little tyke in one of the cribs somewhere in the world who will grow up to be a heavyweight champion. And it sounds just as reasonable as can be, that is if his parents don't turn him from his true destiny and shunt him off into the Presidency because it would be a trifle safer than messing around with Mr. Louis.

Joe is suffering from one of the common tragedies of great men, it seems. They are usually too much for their times, a fact which must strike them all as odd, since, being mortal, they must have a slight preference for enjoying fame and fortune above the cold, cold ground.

It isn't any of their business, of course, but some of the boys around here are saying Joe could pick up easier money if he'd switch over to golf for his living. It's hard to say how much truth there is in it, but they say that if Joe made the switch and then made it plain to those boys who have been winning all these tournaments with 67's and the like that if they kept it up, now that he was around, he had a feeling that they wouldn't be working in the interest of their best health . . . Well, you see their point. Mebbe they've got something, just like the elevator boy had. Sat. 7-19-47

## Joe Louis' Autobiography, 'My Life Story' Is Punh-By-Punch Account of Championship

The Call Kansas City Mo.

When Joe Louis entered the ring for his first professional fight July 4, 1934, he had an impressive record behind him as an amateur. As he tells you himself in his book, "My Life Story," Joe had won 54 out of 58 fights, 43 of them by kayoes.

His first pro opponent was to be Jack Kracken, the young heavyweight king of Chicago. Kracken was a good puncher, so the fans were looking for a lot of fireworks. Fri. 3-21-47

"When the fight started," recalls Joe, "I was careful at first. I started shooting 'em at Kracken's body. He fought back for about a minute, but I was beating him to the punch. Then Jack started dropping his guard. I threw a left. It caught Kracken on the jaw, and he dropped down —and out. The fight ended with nearly a minute left in the first round."

The future champ was on his way professionally, but there was a long hill yet to climb before he won the crown from Braddock.

In "My Life Story," Joe Louis gives his own punch-by-punch account of his fights with Carnera, Max and Buddy Baer, Sharky, Braddock, Galento, Godoy, Farr, Pastor, Nova, Schmeling and many others, including his most recent encounter with Tami Mauriello.

For example, Joe takes you backstage and gives you the exciting inside story of his title bout against his friend, James J. Braddock.

If Braddock thought as much of his title as I thought of winning it," Joe writes, "then I was in for a fight. But I was ready to give all that was in me."

The bell sounded! the fight was on!

"After a few seconds, Braddock threw a right that was a honey." Both fighters meant business. Well, you know Joe won by a knockout in the eighth round, but you don't know what strategy the champ followed—how he planned every punch—and went through his mind as the referee counted a game Braddock out. Joe tells you in his new book, "My Life Story.'

But while Joe Louis won the crown by beating Braddock, "I knew that I wouldn't feel like a real champ until I had beaten Max Schmeling."

The new champ had revenge in his heart. He was still mad at Schmeling for hitting after the bell in their first round. And when Joe Louis got at the German a second time, what a pounding Joe gave Max! That fight, too, short and one-sided as it was, is described in great detail in "My Life Story." Fri. 3-21-47

Joe's fascinating autobiography is supplemented by seventy-five intimate pictures of the champ's private life. You'll see Joe with his mother, his baby, his family. Youll see Joe on horseback. And you'll see Joe in the ring.

Louis also tells you why he's definitely not planning to retire soon. He relates his days in uniform. He tells some of his prize training secrets. He gives you the complete story of his life, from his earliest days right up to the present.

And capping off his whole inspiring book, "My Life Story," Joe pens a dramatic chapter on "What America Means To Me." He tells of visiting President Franklin D. Roosevelt at the White House in the spring of 1938.

He tells why he agreed to give his income from the Buddy Baer fight to the Navy Relief fund. He gives the story behind his famous statement: "We've all got to do our part, and then we'll win. 'Cause we're on God's side."

Then he tells what America means to him....and should mean to every American. Fri. 3-21-47

Joe Louis is a true champion, as he proves in his great new book, "My Life Story," an Eagle Book, published by Duell, Sloan and Pearce, Inc., or New York.

## Louis Batters Arturo Godoy Silly In Exhibition; Referee Gets Socked

The Call Kansas City Mo.

Fri. 2-28-47

SANTIAGO, Chile. — Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis battered Arturo Godoy silly here Wednesday night before a crowd of 30,000 spectators at the Estadio Nacional, sending Godoy to the canvas in the third and sixth rounds and so befuddling him in the second that Godoy landed a haymaker on the chin of Louis Angelo Firpo, referee and former title contender. Fri. 2-28-47

The crowd saw Godoy launch a savage slugging attack on the champion at the opening bell, but Louis soon caused a lull in Godoy's frantic milling and had him backing up in a daze before the stanza ended.

Godoy was true to his pre-bout promise to give the fans a rousing fight in the six-round exhibition, and he won their applause for his courageous attack. However, the crowd soon sensed that Godoy had neither the tools nor the knowledge to make a good stand with the champion. Even with 14-ounce gloves Godoy felt the power and speed of Louis' punches. His face was as red as a beet at the end of the bout.

This was Godoy's first bout here in his home country since 1944. He weighed 198, the champion, 207. The crowd contributed a gross gate of $30,000.

### Won't Retire

# Louis Hailed In Cuba

Sat. 3-15-47

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

By WENDELL SMITH (Courier Sports Editor)

HAVANA, Cuba — America's greatest good-will Ambassador — Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis—arrived here last Friday night on the last leg of his unprecedented tour of South America.

The heavyweight king and his entourage landed at the Havana Airport at 8:30 P. M. where a cheering throng gave him a thunderous ovation. He was immediately rushed to the Seville-Biltmore Hotel in a Cuban Government official's car, where another big crowd greeted him.

**ROXBOROUGH IN PARTY**

Included in the champion's party were John Roxborough and Marshall Miles, his managers; Manny Seamon, trainer; Freddy Wilpersonal aide, and William B. Graham, president of the All-American Drinks Corporation, distributor of a new soft drink named in Louis' honor.

The champion appeared in excellent condition, although definitely exhausted from his long trip from the hinterlands.

When interviewed, Joe declared: "This has been a great trip. We have been treated swell every place. Couldn't have been treated better." Sat. 3-15-47

At a press conference Saturday morning, Louis did an excellent job of answering questions which were fired at him by Cuban sports writers.

**WON'T RETIRE FOR A YEAR**

Asked when he planned to retire, the Brown Bomber said: "I think I can go on for least another year. At least, I'm going to try."

He was then asked whom he thought his next opponent would be. He answered that in all probability it would be Bruce Woodcock, the English heavyweight.

Even though he had to stay in his hotel suite, and as a result saw very little of tropical Havana, he was in excellent spirits. Joe had to stay confined to avoid the wildly cheering, hysterical crowds that mobbed him whenever he did appear.

Sunday morning the heavyweight champion was presented the key to the city by Mayor Manuel Fernandez Supervielle at an impressive ceremony in the reception room of Havana's historic City Hall, before high dignitaries of the city and Governmental officials. The Mayor lauded Louis for his fighting ability, sportsmanship and excellent conduct.

**KID CHOCOLATE PRESENT**

Among the well-known celebrities present was Kid Chocolate, former lightweight champion and the greatest fighter in Cuban history. Sat. 3-15-47

When he left the City Hall, he was mobbed by a cheering throng which swarmed over police escorts and almost created a riot.

The champion left for California by plane Monday night.

# Happy Birthday, Champ!

Daily Worker New York N.Y.

Cheer up, those of you who are starting to move along in your thirties. The World Heavyweight Champion had a birthday yesterday and guess how old he was? Thirty three, no less. He stands further above the field today than he ever did before, or than any other heavy weight champion in history ever did before him. Joe won the championship from Jimmy Braddock in 1937 at the age of 23, making him the youngest heavyweight champion of all time. He has successfully defended his title 23 times.

Wed. 5-14-47

# Car Stolen From Louis Is Recovered

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

Sat. 4-5-47

NEW YORK — Harry Holmes, 22-year-old dining car waiter, of 220 West 152nd Street, was held in $2,500 bail for the Federal Grand Jury Thursday on a charge of stealing an automobile owned by the heavyweight boxing champion, Joe Louis.

Edward Schedit, chief of the New York office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, said that the automobile, a 1946 Cadillac that Louis had owned but two days when it was stolen Oct. 5, had been recovered by the police at Westport, Conn.

Holmes told the FBI, officials said, that after taking the automobile he parked it under the Harlem River Bridge at 161st Street for a week while he went on a railroad trip. Upon his return he obtained a registration plate from a wrecked vehicle and threw Louis' plate into the Harlem River, the officials declared.

## Joe Louis Jr., Just Like Dad

The Call Fri. 6-13-47

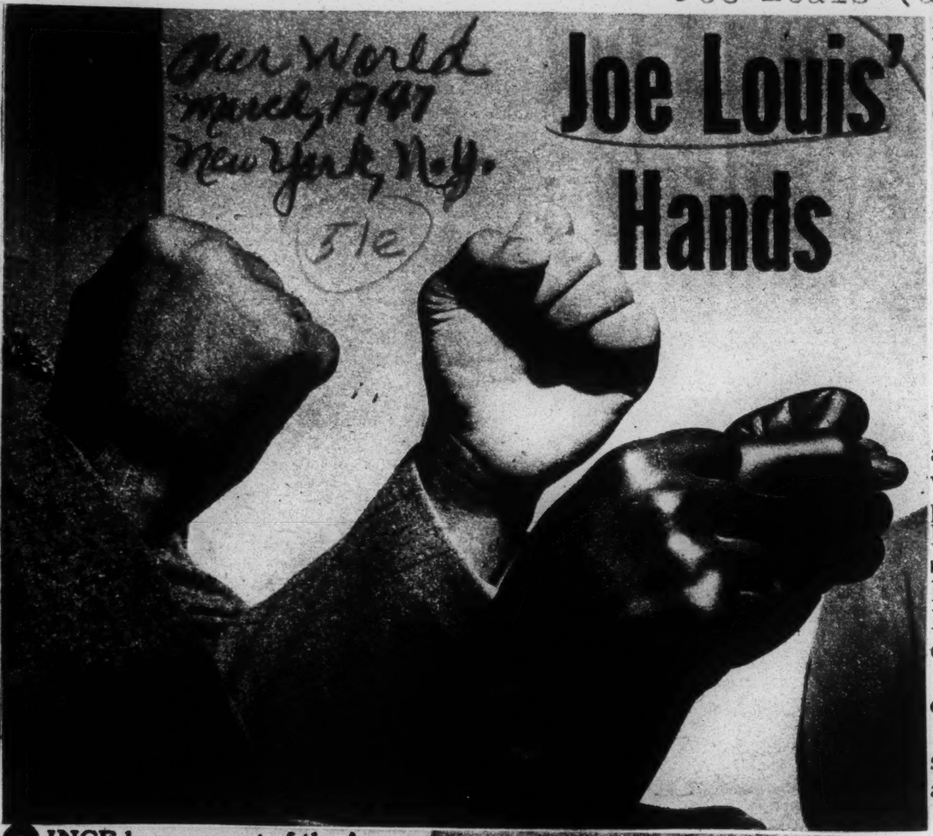
MEXICO CITY.—(NNPA)—Joe Louis Jr., is the spitting image of his father, nurses at the clinic here said.

Called by them "peso completo (heavyweight), the boy has lost a few grams since he was born, one nurse said. The boy weighed 11½ pounds at birth and is considered still a big baby.

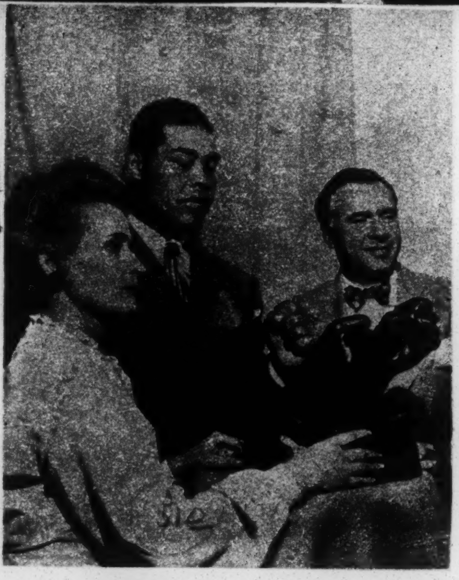
Kansas City, Mo.

# Joe Louis' Hands

Our World March, 1947 New York, N.Y.



SINCE he came out of the Army, Joe Louis has received almost every honor that can be heaped on an outstanding American. The latest was Ray Shaw's portrait of his hands—the hands that have clipped thirty KO victims. The bronze cast was unveiled at a ceremony attended by Joe himself, Abe Green, National Boxing Association President (see pictures), and a host of celebrities. Miss Shaw, who does hands exclusively, started with those of a bootblack and has achieved sufficient fame to have had the late FDR among her sitters.



# Tom Meany:

## That Foe for Louis Is Invisible Guy

P.M. New York, N.Y. Mon. 5-26-47

Jimmy Grippo, manager of Melio Bettina, a title which now is almost as empty as that of an air raid warden in Berlin, is well and favorably known as a magician and hypnotist. It well may be that Grippo's greatest achievement and outstanding subject in the entire field of hypnosis is himself. There is no other explanation for Jimmy's oft-repeated declarations that his boy Bettina would drive Joe Louis into retirement than that he was a victim of self-hypnosis.

Grippo, for some months past, has been expressing himself on the Louis-Bettina bout, a bout which now has as much chance of being fought as a replay of the Battle of the Wilderness. I believe Jimmy to be sincere—even if his sincerity was self-induced. The countless letters he wrote to the press about Bettina driving the Bomber into retirement convinced Grippo, if nobody else, that such was so.

Bettina lasted 59 seconds against Gus Lesnevich at the Garden Friday night and spent less than 40 seconds of that time in an upright position. It took a shot of adrenalin in the dressing-room to allow him to compose himself sufficiently to remove his ring togs, for what is sincerely hoped to be the last time. Bettina shouldn't fight again unless there is another war and he's still within draft age.

The most common speculation after the quick knockout by Lesnevich was what would have happened if Grippo had succeeded in his campaign to get Bettina into the ring with Louis. Actually, it couldn't have been any worse, nor could the Bomber have disposed of the Beacon fat boy any more quickly. Lesnevich made it in par for the course.

The victory of Lesnevich emphasizes that there is nobody around at the moment who can cause Louis to break into a sweat. Gus modesty admits that he isn't in the same class with Joe and seems quite content to go about knocking out suckers, a field which is practically virgin territory. Joe Baksi, who has been nominated for a shot at (or by) Louis ever since he made beef pie out of Bruce Woodcock in London, may find himself fighting the champ in September, willy-nilly. Louis will fight somebody and Baksi seems the best of a poor lot.

There is no question that Louis is ready to be taken. He has held the title nearly a decade and may retire undefeated if he can't find a suitable opponent. When Joe eventually is defeated it possibly will be old age, rather than any one opponent. If he keeps getting into the ring often enough, somebody is going to flatten him or outbox him, probably the former.

The Lesnevich bout was supposed to be the first in a series of eliminations to prove the qualifications of Bettina for a chance against Louis. It eliminated only Bettina, but good. Boxers still around who think they are eligible for a chance at the pugilistic jackpot herewith are advised to hold their fire until they see the white of his (Joe's) eyes. There is no percentage in entering an elimination tournament, lest you turn out to be the one eliminated, even as Bettina.

There seems to be nothing left for Baksi but to fight Louis in September. The former beer hall bouncer has shown marked ability to take a punch, a virtue which is practically indispensable to anybody even thinking of fighting Louis.

even thinking of fighting Louis.

In the meantime, Grippo can take a bow. He came within a hair's breadth of proving the power of mind over matter.

P.M. 5-26-47

# Joe Louis And Marva Have a Son

The Call

### Famous Couple Remarried Year Ago in Secret

Kansas City, Mo. Fri. 6-13-47

SAN DIEGO, Cal.—(NNPA)—Joe Louis, heavyweight champion of the world, confirmed reports that his wife, Mrs. Marva Trotter Barrow, had given birth to a son last May 28.

The son was born in Mexico City where Mrs. Barrow has been living ever since Louis began his tour of Latin America. Joe joined her there when he went to Mexico City to train for his exhibition bout with Arturo Godoy, the Chilian fighter, in the Mexican capital.

Louis said his son has been named Joe Louis Jr., and that he hopes the boy will some day succeed him as the heavyweight boxing champion.

Fri. 6-13-47

Playing golf here, Louis disclosed that he and Marva had remarried a year ago. They were divorced in 1945 and have another child, Jacqueline, aged four years.

Louis was located on the San Diego municipal golf course after efforts to reach him in Los Angeles and elsewhere had failed. Shown a message from Mexico City reporting the birth of his son and that he plans to visit his wife and the newest addition to his family in Mexico as soon as possible, Louis confirmed the report but said instead of going to Mexico City he would meet Marva in Chicago. He said she would fly there as soon as she was able.

The heavyweight champ could not recall the name of the town where he and Marva had remarried but said it was a small place in Indiana, near Chicago. Reports that he and Marva had remarried have been persisting for some time.

51e

## A Fast Attack of Memoirs

by JOHN LARDNER

Newsweek 4-31-47 Dayton, Ohio

Obeying an impulse which has been irresistible to heavyweight boxing champions since the time of John L. Sullivan, Joe Louis came out last week with his autobiography. If Joe's typewriting finger (the second on the right) still appears fresh as a daisy after the ordeal, perhaps the place to look for wear and tear is on the professional hands of his "editorial aids," Chester L. Washington and Haskell Cohen.

There is a practical, hustling spirit about a man who starts writing his autobiography young. It gives him a chance, if he works fast, to write a whole shelf of autobiographies. Louis will not be 33 till next May. This means that he may be able to break the record of the late Edward W. Bok, who began writing autobiographies somewhat later in life than Joe, but showed great speed in the stretch, producing two or three of them, if I remember correctly, before the official termination of his topic.

Mr. Bok's last one was called "Twice Thirty." This title gives a handy hint to other potential multiple autobiographers like Louis. Joe named his first one "My Life Story," instead of "Twice Sixteen," but there is no reason why, along about 1955, he should not produce a book called "Twice Twenty," and then, a few years after that, "Thrice Sixteen" or "Two and a Half Times Eighteen." There is also no reason why he should not still be heavyweight champion then, if the present state of the cauliflower market means anything at all.

If Joe prefers not to borrow his text from the multiplication tables, another working title for a series of autobiographies is "Looking Back"—which can be followed by "Looking Back Again," "Still Looking Back," and "Looking 'Way, 'Way Back." I had always planned to use this sequence for my own life story, but until there is a stronger demand for same, I make a present of it to Joseph.

Newsweek 4-31-47

Being still active, at the head of his profession, Louis does not produce a very interesting autobiography this time. In fact, it is one of the most discreet jobs of its kind I have ever cast an eye on. It has harsh words for nobody. The tone of the book suggests that if Joe had had dealings with a man-eating shark, he would have described their meeting as follows:

"Then, on July 10, 1938, I met a man-eating shark at Yankee Stadium. He lasted eight rounds. He was a nice fellow, a dead game selachian, and I hated to let him have it."

Your correspondent was raised on the memoirs of James J. Corbett, Ruby Robert Fitzsimmons, and Jack Johnson, all of which were written at a time when the protagonists were finished with boxing, or so nearly finished as to have nothing left to do but speculate on how anyone ever happened to beat them. Their books supplied the answers to this speculation. Fitzsimmons fouled Corbett, in Corbett's book. Corbett stuck his thumb in Fitzsimmons's eye, in Fitz's book, but this coarse practice availed him nothing. Nothing availed anybody against Fitz, for that matter, until Jeffries managed to catch him in the throes of pneumonia, superinduced by persecution and family troubles. Even then, it took a lucky punch to beat him. Fitz really had Jeff knocked out, in Fitz's book, but the referee was looking the other way. 4-31-47 Dayton Ohio

Johnson explained his loss to Jess Willard very simply: He threw the fight. His autobiography also contained a vivid description of a German zeppelin which stalked him through London in the first world war, turning whenever he turned in a desperate effort to wipe him out.

"They wanted me bad," said the author.

In the sere of their lives, these giants found plenty to beef about. Louis has been beaten only once, professionally, and in connection with that first fight with Max Schmeling he makes a genteel, tolerant mention of a punch after the bell by Schmeling. He says it got him a little peevish, which is a most restrained way of accounting for the fury of his rush in the first round of their second fight, when, as he reports, he made Schmeling "squeal like a pig." In the main he just does not admit to any grudge worth holding, at the age of twice sixteen. Along toward his third or fourth autobiography, we may hear some stuff from Joe that will be saltier.

Meanwhile, he is off to a fast start in the life-story sweepstakes, and should have another ready by the time he is three times twelve.

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*Champ Just Smiles*

# Secret Marriage Out As Joe Jr. Is Born

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

Sat. 6-14-47

**MEXICO CITY—Happy over the arrival of Joe Louis Jr., Marva Louis is continuing to keep silent over future plans.**

**Interviewed by The Courier here last week, she said: "Any statement will have to come from Joe."**

**Earlier during the interview, she had referred to a "campaign" of rumors against her, saying "You can't satisfy a scandal-hungry public. If I try to imply a happy relationship between Joe and myself, it keeps me confirming or denying."**

**These statements confirmed the attitudes of the champion that both he and Marva intended to keep their personal lives "as private as possible."**

**By HERMAN HILL, Los Angeles Bureau**

LOS ANGELES—Now it can be told!

Joe Louis and his divorced wife, Marva have been remarried since July of last year.

The effort of the heavyweight champion and his wife to keep their "private life" as secretive as possible, exploded last week, with the announcement that Marva had given birth to an eleven-pound boy in a Mexico City hospital on May 28.

The baby has been named Joe Louis Jr.

And so . . . the Nation learned officially for the first time that all was once again calm on the turbulent sea of romance which has tossed the champion and his wife into court and out again, since their first marriage.

With the Louises intimate friends it had been conceded, generally, that their romance had been patched up. Winchell had intimated this fact some months ago. But in deference to the wishes of the couple, nothing had been formally stated.

Louis, who has been unusually reticent about discussing his personal life, is known to have felt that "outside interference" and "misguided advice" from friends, resulted in his first marital rift.

For this reason, he has constantly refused to discuss his private life with even his most intimate friends.

**WHY THE SURPRISE?**

Louis intimated this to me when I talked with him. He insisted that he felt that his public life and his private life followed two different paths. Said he:

**"I don't see why there is so much surprise about Marva and I remarrying. That was our private business. We made no effort to keep it secret. But we didn't go about shouting it from the housetops. We are trying to stay out of the news . . . as much as possible . . . believing that this is the way to continue living happily together."**

The birth of the baby came as a stunning surprise to the millions who have followed the love life of the heavyweight champion and his charming wife. Divorced in Chicago on March 27, 1945, after nearly ten years of marriage, the famous fighter and his wife went their respective ways, apparently "through with it all."

**WORLD KNOWS NOW**

But last week, Joe Louis Jr. arrived on the scene—wearing even less than his daddy does in the ring—and it was then the world learned that Joe and Marva remarried last July in a small Indiana town near Chicago.

When newspapermen finally caught up with the heavyweight king on a San Diego (Calif.) golf course and told him they knew he was a father, Louis smiled and with a twinkle in his eye, said: "Guess I scooped you guys that time. I knew about it two days ago." Sat. 6-14-47

It was then that Joe revealed he and the former Chicago stenographer, whom he married on the eve of his important fight with Max Baer in 1935, remarried last July. They have one child by their first marriage, Jacqueline, who is now 4.

**CAN'T REMEMBER**

"I don't remember the name of the town," he said, "but it was in Indiana, not far from Chicago." The champion said he was surprised that no one knew about it. "We didn't try to hide it," he said.

The Courier learned this week that Louis is trying to cancel a number of commitments he has made, and plans to fly to Mexico City. He first stated he would meet his wife and family in Chicago, but apparently has changed his mind. Intimate friends also state that he is planning on buying a home in Los Angeles and live with his family there.

The birth of the child and the announcement of the reconciliation confirmed rumors relative to Joe and Marva circulating for a long time. Mrs. Louis arrived in Mexico City early in February, when her husband appeared there in an exhibition match with Arturo Godoy of Chile. After that exhibition, he left on a 10-000-mile tour of South and Central America. She said she had not seen him since then.

She said during an interview in Mexico City last Saturday that Joe had been informed of the baby's arrival by cable and "he replied he would come here as soon as he could." Sat. 6-14-47

**FOR CHILD'S HEALTH**

When Mrs. Louis first arrived in Mexico City she told intimate friends that the purpose of her trip was primarily for Jacqueline's health. Throughout her stay here she denied that they had remarried. At one time she stated that she was "incensed" over the many rumors about herself and Joe.

The "Private Lives of Joe and Marva" is a saga worth consideration by Hollywood studios. They first met when Joe was just beginning to attract attention as a fighter in Chicago. After he had established himself as the future champion, they were married in New York City amid the cheers of thousands of admirers. The busy routine of a heavyweight champion, however, proved to be a stumbling block in their private life, and soon the romance was on stormy seas. They finally were divorced and a property settlement was made, with Marva and the baby daughter "being well taken care of."

**BEST OF FRIENDS**

Since the divorce, rumors have continued to fly relative to a reunion. But both Joe and Marva consistently denied them. It is a known fact, however, that they remained the best of friends and that on his frequent trips to and from the West Coast the champion made it a habit to stop in Chicago and visit his ex-wife and little daughter. It is also known that on such important holidays as Thanksgiving, Christmas and Mother's Day, Louis tried to be, and usually was, with his family.

The fact that neither of them remarried was also reason for people to believe that eventually they would be together again. The champion's name has been linked many times with prominent young women around the country. At one time it was rumored, also, that his wife would marry a well known businessman in Chicago. However, none of these rumors proved to be true, and now after two years of 'single life' the Louises have reunited, much to the delight of their many friends, who have been pulling for that to happen all along.

Louis appeared to be very happy about the whole thing when interviewed by The Pittsburgh Courier. He passed out the traditional cigars and joked with his friends who came to congratulate him.

After announcing that the baby would be named Joe Louis Jr., Mrs. Louis refused to comment further on the situation. "Any further statements will come from Joe," she said. "I am sure he will be glad to answer any questions."

## Who Would Win, Dempsey or Louis?

That age-old argument relative to the winner of a Joe Louis-Jack Dempsey fight has bobbed up again. Probably the two greatest fighters in heavyweight history, Dempsey and Louis, have provided many an entertaining evening for the second-guessers of Fistic Row. Last week Gene Tunney, a former champion himself, joined the debate and said that in his opinion the Manassa Mauler would have knocked Louis into the land of slumber. Pittsburgh, Pa.

**"Dempsey would have knocked Louis out," Tunney said. "Dempsey could take a punch and keep coming."** Courier

We might add here that Dempsey could do just that. He could take a punch and keep throwing them. He didn't, however, fight anyone who could punch like the present heavyweight champion. The big question is whether he could take a Joe Louis punch—and keep coming. Few of them have. There has never been a more accurate, faster puncher than the Brown Bomber, and in our opinion he wouldn't have had too difficult a time disposing of Dempsey. Louis has never had trouble with fellows he could hit. Dempsey was no defensive wonder. His fight with big, cumbersome Firpo proved that. Sat. 9-6-47

**Tunney said that it will take more than a clever boxer to win the title from Louis. "Joe will wear down a smart boxer who can't punch," he said. "He proved that with Billy Conn."**

Commenting on the best heavyweights in history, Tunney said that Dempsey and Louis were the greatest he'd seen. In view of the fact that Gene beat Dempsey twice, he automatically rates up there with Louis and Dempsey. If we wanted to make this debate even more confusing, we might ask: "Who would have emerged the victor in a series of bouts between Louis, Tunney and Dempsey?"

**We'd cast our ballot for Louis. Tunney says it would take more than a clever boxer to beat Joe. If that is true, he would have lost to Louis because that was Tunney's one major asset—cleverness.**

## Joe Louis Is an 'Old Man,' Should Quit, Says Dempsey

Times, New York, N.Y.

By The Associated Press.

WINDSOR, Ont., Sept. 5—Joe Louis "is an old man and should retire at once," Jack Dempsey said in an interview today. The former heavyweight champion expressed the opinion that one of these days somebody will kayo Joe—and, he added, it might be almost any youngster.

"If they can get to him, they'll flatten him and that's bad," continued the Mauler. "The longer Joe sticks around, the more unfavorable will be his publicity.

"That so-called exhibition coming off in November against Jersey Joe Walcott wan't do Joe's reputation any good. Walcott isn't a real contender. There are no contenders—the field is wide open." Sat. 9-6-47

## Joe Louis Branded 'Red' by Rep. Rankin in Campaign Speech

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

LEXINGTON, Miss. — Rep. John E. Rankin (Dem., Miss.) in a campaign speech here last Thursday labeled Joe Louis, heavyweight boxing champion as a Communist, charging that he is heading up a campaign to have the Senate refuse to seat him if he is elected to succeed the late Sen. Theodore G Bilbo. Sat. 10-25-47

Rankin said Louis was circulating a petition to have him thrown out of the House. He called the champion and those working on the petition, "a bunch of Communist-inspired northern colored people."

**For Children**

## Louises Set Up $31,000 Trust

Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sat. 11-1-47

CHICAGO—A $31,000 trust fund, set up here last week by Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis and his wife, Mrs. Marva Trotter Barrow, will assure the maintainance and education of their two children, Jacqueline, 4, and Joe Jr., aged five months. Mrs. Barrow was named legal guardian of the children, under terms of an agreement in Probate Court here last week.

## A Great Picture of a Great Man

Globe, Sat. 11-14-47

Since Joe Louis became the heavyweight champion of the world in 1937, he has made an unprecedented ring history. There never has been a boxing champion who was a greater credit to the game, one who was more willing to take all comers. By his clean, simple living, his high moral standard, he endeared himself to the hearts of all Americans, regardless of race or creed. Countless of articles have been written about his life, his achievements, and his pictures can be found in numerous homes and public places. Nashville, Tenn.

A great tribute was paid to Joe by an artist who created the most unusual, amazing picture ever made of a living person. It shows the likeness of Joe Louis in a fighting pose, but what distinguishes it from all other pictures of Joe is the fact that the likeness emerges from difference in shading of the 5730 hand-written words arranged in 203 lines from top to the bottom of the picture. A total of 183 hours of careful and painstaking work was required to complete this work of art. It contains an interesting biography of Joe, the record of all his fights, listing the date of each, the name of his opponents, the place of the bout, how many rounds it lasted and how it was won. It is really the most complete record compiled of Joe's activities.

Pen Art Publications, Box 1774, Cleveland 5, Ohio, are the publishers of this extraordinary picture and you can obtain a copy by sending them $1.00 in cash or in money order. It is a beautiful product printed in three colors, 22 by 34 inches in size, and ready for hanging or framing. The picture is so cleverly made, so different from anything ever seen that it will surprise everyone. Any person who has followed the outstanding career of Joe will be glad and happy to own this GREAT PICTURE OF A GREAT MAN.—Adv. contributed.

## Joe Louis Says New York Body Should Join N. B. A.

News, Birmingham, Ala.

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., Nov. 18—(AP)—Joe Louis, heavyweight champion of the world, said last night that he believed the best way to clean up boxing in New York was for the New York Athletic Commission to join forces with the National Boxing Association.

"If the state of New York wants to clean up boxing, it should join the N. B. A.," he said. "Then if a fighter is suspended in New York, he is suspended throughout the United States and Canada. Tue.

"As it is now, New York is not in the N. B. A. and if it suspends a fighter he is free to fight in practically every other state in the country. However, if New York were in the N. B. A., the fighter would have to watch his step before doing anything wrong, realizing that if he were suspended in New York, he would be suspended throughout the country. 11-18-47

## Mike Jacobs gives Joe credit for success of Jacobs & co.

Tribune, Los Angeles, Calif.

Sat. 11-8-47

NEW YORK — (CNS) — Large part of the occasion of Mike Jacobs' 10th anniversary here last week as big bossman of Madison Square Garden and all that it has meant was taken up with a nostalgic thanksgiving to heavyweight champion Joe Louis for the whopping share he had in the whopping Jacobs success story.

Jacobs admitted all over the place that the team of Louis & Jacobs had gone places together. In the beginning, bossman "Uncle" Mike had tough sledding trying to break the stranglehold promoter Jimmy Johnson had on the Gardens and big-name fighters. That was when the Gardens were doing their biggest business as a stock showplace, but along came Joe Louis, said Jacobs, and things started popping. Sat. 11-8-47

"Never heard of him before," reminisced Uncle Mike, "but a friend told me to give him the once over, 'he's a whale of a heavyweight—knocks out every guy he meets—this kid named Louis, Joe Louis.' So I looked him (Joe, up & over and signed him on. The bad days were over; Sat. 11-8-47

"When Joe won the heavyweight crown from Jimmy Braddock in 1937, Madison Square Gardens went into partnership with 20th Century Sporting club and I took over as matchmaker. We were in."

From 1937 on, Mike Jacobs, Madison Square Garden, and 20th Century have been synonimous as far as John Q. Public was concerned. From then until he was stricken last winter with paralysis, Jacobs had cracked the whip at most of the champs and all of the champs who came around New York figuring on getting ahead in the world. He still does, even from his sick bed.

## Louis Signs For London Appearances

Atlanta Constitution

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., Dec. 3—(UP)—Champion Joe Louis disclosed his supreme confidence of retaining his heavyweight title against Jersey Joe Walcott Friday night by signing contracts Tuesday for $80,000 worth of "champion's appearances" in London.

Should Louis lose his heavyweight crown, the London appearances automatically will be cancelled. Thurs.

The London venture—which will prevent another Louis fight at Madison Square Garden in March—was announced just before Louis hammered through four fast rounds with three sparmates before more than 300 spectators.

Louis personally made the announcement. He explained that he will sail for England on the Queen Elizabeth, Feb. 19, and that he will return to the United States not later than April 15. 12-4-47

Joe said he had contracted to appear for 28 days at the "Health and Holiday" Exposition in London. He believed this Exposition resembled somewhat a combination American sports and tourist show. On each day he will make three appearances in (1) a two-round boxing exhibition, (2) a talk on sports, and (3) a demonstration of his training methods.

JOE'S TOUGHEST FIGHT—

## Louis Relates Lifelong Battle With Jim Crow

Afro-American

NEW YORK—Joe Louis, who has displayd a knock for simple eloquence in his few brief public statements, has written a full-length feature article in the current issue of Salute magazine entitled, "My Toughest Fight: Prejudice." Sat. 11-22-47.

Going into detail for the first time on the lesser known incidents in his career and on his ambitions for fostering racial understanding, the heavyweight champion asserts, "There's one fight I've always wanted-that's a crack at jim crow."

Louis states that when he was starting his career, Jack Blackburn said, "You're colored, Joe. And a colored fighter's got to be lots better than the other man-

if he's gonna go places. But you've got to have more than just two good hands. You gotta do the right thing. And never leave yourself open so people can talk about you."

**Insulted by Colonel**

The fighter describes incidents from his army career — the drunken colonel who tried to force his way into a private dinner given for the touring champion and who shouted at Cpl. Eddie Green, "I can hardly wait till I get back to my hometown in Mississippi. There we know what to do with colored people like you and Joe. We'd tar and feather you for not obeying a white man."

On another occasion some English girls asked the champ for autographs. An American sailor stopped them and said, "I don't give a damn if it is Joe Louis. You are white girls. And they are just a bunch of colored people. We don't want to see white girls making fools of themselves over any colored person."

**Bucked Segregation**

Louis states that on several occasions he refused to fight Army exhibitions until segregated colored troops were permitted to view the bouts from the same locations as the white soldiers.

Also described is an incident in a Georgia railroad station in which Louis reveals that he was arrested for using a telephone on the "white" side of the station.

In spite of these experiences, Louis closes the article with the statement, "Prejudice is weakening. The good people are softening it up. So we can't stop punching now. We just have to punch faster and harder. That's the only way we can make America a better place for my little boy and girl and all the boys and girls in our country. I'm going to do my part."

Sat Baltimore, Md. 11-22-47

# Champ's Chef, Bill Bottoms, 2 Others Ill

Defender Chicago Ill. Sat. 11-29-47

## Special Protection For Louis Ordered By Physicians

POMPTON LAKES, N.J.—Vigorous measures to protect Joe Louis from ptomaine poisoning were ordered immediately Thursday night as three members of his Pompton Lakes Camp were stricken by what is believed to be food poisoning. 11-29-47

Those stricken were Joe Louis' famous chef, Bill Bottoms, Radford Morris, and Freddie Wilson. Although Joe Louis went through six rounds of boxing Thursday, and seemed to be in good shape for his bout with Jersey Joe Walcott in Madison Square Garden on December 5, the champ's manager said no chances would be taken.

Joe has trained at Pompton Lakes for each of his major title bouts and his chef, Bill Bottoms, has always supervised his training diet.

Physicians examined Joe for any traces of the poisoning which felled his colleagues. Apparently the champion did not eat the same food, or was not affected by it. Physicians reported that he showed no signs of poisoning.

**From Ford Plant**

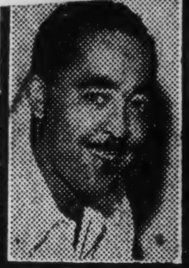
# On Leave of Absence...Joe

Courier

NEW YORK—Still a champ at double talk, heavyweight king, Joe Louis, when asked by reporters here last week how he was fixed financially, came through with another one for the books. Pittsburgh, Pa.

Joe's answer was:

"I'm just on leave of absence from the Ford plant. I can always go back there."



# Wendell Smith's Sports Beat

## Louis' Record All-Time Greatest

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

NEW YORK CITY—When Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis climbs through the ropes in Madison Square Garden on the night of Dec. 5 to face Jersey Joe Walcott, it will be the sixtieth time in thirteen years he has risked his sturdy chin against the prowess of an alleged qualified enemy. In every instance, except one, he has emerged the victor. Max Schmeling, the German gunner, was the only foe who managed to over-power the heavyweight king. History proves, however, that Louis more than made up for that one smudge on his otherwise perfect record in the rough and rugged art of professional boxing.

**Joe Louis started his professional career in Chicago on the night of July 4, 1934. He knocked out Jack Kracken in less than one round. Since that time he has met fifty-eight other opponents and only seven of them have been able to hear the bell denoting the termination of the final round. All the rest heard the birdies sing before the end of the last stanza.** Sat. 11-29-47

To say that Louis is anything other than the greatest heavyweight of all time is so absurd that it lowers the dignity of anyone who even attempts to argue over the fact. During his thirteen years of fisticuffs, Louis has grossed a total of $3,101,681, more money than any fighter has ever made in the history of boxing.

**Since he knocked out James J. Braddock on the night of June 22, 1937, he has defended his title successfully exactly twenty-three times. Of these twenty-three pretenders to his sparkling crown, the mighty Bomber has disposed of twenty-one via the knockout route.**

## Only Two Go the Distance

Sat. 11-29-47

Only two, Tommy Farr and Arturo Godoy, have been lucky enough to escape the atomic power in Joe's bombastic fists. Farr did it on Aug. 30, 1937, by keeping away from Louis, who injured both hands and couldn't uncork his power blows. Godoy managed to go the route on Feb. 9, 1940, by kneeling and crawling all over the ring and doing as little fighting as possible. But all the rest, the brave, the strong and the courageous "faw' down and go boom." Godoy was the last fighter to go the distance with the man who is master of all he surveys. That was seven long years ago. Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Louis has had two fights since he came out of the Army on Oct. 1, 1945. He knocked out Billy Conn in eight rounds at New York on June 19, 1946, and then stopped Tami Mauriello in the same city on Sept. 18. Say what they will, belittle the opposition, cry that the opposition today is far below that in the days of Dempsey, Tunney, Sullivan, Corbett and Jefferies—Louis still has the greatest record of all time. He has fought every contender of any worth; he has come down through the years like a thorobred in the stretch; he has proven it isn't the manager—as the thorobred proves it isn't the jockey—and has been so far above the rest of the field that it hasn't been a race . . . It's been a rout!**

So we've said all that to say this: He may not know it, but Jersey Joe Walcott, a nice guy and fairly good fighter, is about to meet his doom. He's gonna' get his ears pined back and they'll haul him back to the pastures of the famous contented cow a bit bruised, but much wiser. Louis—for all his thirteen years in the ring—is still good enough to dispose of the likes of Jersey Joe, a nice family man who should think about that and less about Mr. Louis.

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Maybe Jersey Joe will be wise if he takes Jake's advice. Maybe he should "stood" in bed—voluntarily!

# Brown Bomber Lashing Out Against Jimcro In Article

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.

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**ARMY INCIDENTS**

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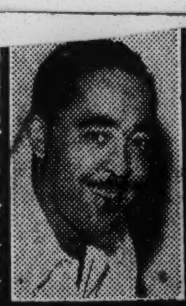

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# Brown Bomber Lashing Out Against Jimcro In Article

NEW YORK — Joe Louis, who has displayed a knack for simple eloquence in his few brief public statements, has written a full-length feature article in the current issue of Salute magazine entitled, "My Toughest Fight: Prejudice." Going into detail the first time on the lesser known incidents in his career and on his ambition for fostering racial understanding, the heavyweight champion asserts: "Theres' one fight I've always wanted—that's a crack at jim crow."

Louis states that when he was starting his career, Jack Blackburn said, "You're colored, Joe. And a colored fighter's got to be lots better than the other man—if he's gonna go places. But you've got to have more than just two good hands. You gotta do the right thing. And never leave yourself open so people can talk about you."

**ARMY INCIDENTS**

The fighter describes incidents from his Army career — the drunken colonel who tried to force his way into a private dinner given for the touring champion and who shouted at Cpl. Eddie Green, "I can hardly wait til I get back to my home town in Missisippi. There we know what to do with n....s like you and Joe. We'd tar and feather you for not obeying a white man."

On another occasion some English girls asked the champ for autographs. An American sailor stopped them and said, "I don't give a damn if it is Joe Louis. You are white girls. And they are just a bunch of n....s. We don't want to see white girls making fools of themselves over any n....r."

Louis states that on several occasions he refused to fight Army exhibitions until segregated Negro troops were permitted to view the bouts from the same locations as the white soldiers.

**GEORGIA INCIDENT**

Also described is an incident in a Georgia railroad station in which Louis reveals that he was arrested for using a telephone on the "white" side of the station.

In spite of these experiences, Louis closes the article with the statement, "Prejudice is weakening. The good people are softening it up. So we can't stop punching now.

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**Insulted by Colonel**

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**Bucked Segregation**

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# Champ's Chef, Bill Bottoms, 2 Others Ill

## Special Protection For Louis Ordered By Physicians

POMPTON LAKES, N.J.—Vigorous measures to protect Joe Louis from ptomaine poisoning were ordered immediately Thursday night as three members of his Pompton Lakes Camp were stricken by what is believed to be food poisoning.

Those stricken were Joe Louis' famous chef, Bill Bottoms, Radford Morris, and Freddie Wilson. Although Joe Louis went through six rounds of boxing Thursday, and seemed to be in good shape for his bout with Jersey Joe Walcott in Madison Square Garden on December 5, the champ's manager said no chances would be taken.

Joe has trained at Pompton Lakes for each of his major title bouts and his chef, Bill Bottoms, has always supervised his training diet.

Physicians examined Joe for any traces of the poisoning which felled his colleagues. Apparently the champion did not eat the same food, or was not affected by it. Physicians reported that he showed no signs of poisoning.

**From Ford Plant**

# On Leave of Absence...Joe

NEW YORK—Still a champ at double talk, heavyweight king, Joe Louis, when asked by reporters here last week how he was fixed financially, came through with another one for the books.

Joe's answer was:

"I'm just on leave of absence from the Ford plant. I can always go back there."

# JOE MAKES HIT IN SOUTH AMERICA

Michigan Chronicle

By LEONARD COHEN

(Reprinted from The New York Post)

The Yankees may have had their fill of South America, but Joe Louis had a grand time on his recent exhibition tour through rhumbaland. The authority for this statement is Andy Niederreiter, who was the tour director for the heavyweight champ and his party.

"There is no doubt Joe is just as popular in Central and South America as he is in our country," said Andy. "Crowds followed him everywhere and people jammed the bull rings and football stadia wherever he gave exhibitions."

Once Andy had started a recital of the tour, there was no stopping him, so let's give Niederreiter the floor. Detroit, Mich.

**"Louis boxed 11 exhibitions, for a total of 54 rounds and grossed around $200,000. We traveled 21,000 miles, every foot by plane.**

**"At San Salvador the entire show consised of one two-minute round prelim, a story teller, a singer and the Louis exhibition of four two-minute rounds. The whole business lasted 35 minutes. But in Lima, Peru, the show consisted of 56 rounds of boxing, Joe's contribution of six rounds, and the affair lasted 4 hours, 25 minutes. Louis got in the ring at 1:05 a.m., and I thought we'd never get home that night.**

"Tremendous crowds greeted us at all the airports and the police had their hands full controlling them and watching for pickpockets.

**JOE SHOWERED WITH GIFTS BY POLITICAL LEADERS**

"At Santiago, Chile, Louis drew 32,476 people, which should be a new world's record for an exhibition. Sat. 4-5-47

"Luis Angel Firpo was the referee at Lima and Santiago. The Wild Bull of the Pampas weighs about 260. They say he's worth about two million, owns 5,000 acres of land and 6,000 head of cattle."

"Incidentally," Andy added, "Bill Graham, president of the soft drink company which bears Louis' name, did well on the tour, getting orders for more than a million dollars' worth of punch.

"We spotted one promising middleweight, Antonio Frontado, in Lima, and I expect to bring him to America in June," Niederreiter informed us.

**"Joe came home with two trunks full of souvenirs. All the political leaders of the countries we visited requested audiences with Louis and presented him with gifts. He was his usual big hit wherever we went.**

"Tickets for the exhibition bouts were scaled from $3 to $30, and those prices kept a lot of potential customers outside the arenas. But in Santiago the promoter was smarter and 24,673 fans turned out at a 60 cents admission charge. Ticket sales were handled by a responsible ticket agency which got 3 percent of the gross receipts for the job.

"The people of the countries we visited have their own customs. Instead of calling the fighter by his name, they shout the name of the countries the boxers come from, such as Ecuador, Columbia, etc. In Latin America the boxers, instead of shaking hands, hug each other." Sat. 4-5-47

We broke in to say "up here they hug each other during the fight," remembering some of the waltzes of recent shows.

**LOUIS CONSIDERING OFFERS FOR ANOTHER TOUR**

Andy, full of memories of the trip, overlooked our interruption.

"Remember Stanislaus Loyaza, of Santiago, who fought here in the lightweight elimination tournament in 1935?" Andy asked. "We ran into him down there. He is an athletic instructor at the Santiago Penitentiary, BUT HE IS NOT AN INMATE," he emphasized.

**It certainly sounded as though Louis, Neiderreiter, John Roxborough, Marshall Miles, and Mannie Seamon, Joe's trainer; his sparring partners, Art Ramsey and Walt Hafer; Louis Bertrand, interpreter; Freddie Wilson and Graham, the punch-man, had a memorable trip.**

Joe is now considering offers to make a tour of other South American countries, Judging from the reports of the first jaunt, the Louis group is very likely to accept the chance to gross another $200,000.

Mrs. Barrow's little boy is certainly getting around.

*First Interview*

# 'Happiest Woman On Earth'—Marva

## Arriving in Chicago This Week With Joe Louis Jr.

MEXICO CITY—Lovely Marva Louis, after refusing the presence of reporters for several days, agreed to be interviewed by this writer at Dr. Mario Gonzalez Ulloa's Maternity Hospital, where an eleven-pound baby boy came to life last May 28—a Mexican son of World Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis!

Eleven pounds of newly born king's blood and flesh. We Mexicans were astonished at our conspicuous little fellow-citizen. Mrs. Louis did not want to let anyone know about the blessed event. But somehow the news went outside of that quiet, luxurious hospital, and a whole flock of scribes and cameramen kept barking around the place.

Finally, this writer received a brief note. Mrs. Louis asked if I cared to interview her. Imagine that. Asking a question like that to a guy who was nearly nuts after trying all means of communication with ex-Marva Trotter, without any results.

Mrs. Louis did not have very much to say about it. But she did not need to make a speech to give an impression of how she was feeling. Her radiant face and motherly look of her eyes told me the whole story, while she was carrying Joe Louis Jr. in her arms.

"I'm the happiest woman on earth," said beautiful Marva. "I was already happy with Jacqueline—her 4-year-old daughter—and now with this little thing—little, she says!—I know there is no happier woman in the world than me. He is just like Joe. Look . . ."

And Pepito, as we called the future champ, looks a lot like his father. Not that Joe Jr., had already started to throw punches and send people to the canvas. But, truthfully, Junior has a remarkable resemblance with his daddy.

"We are going to name him for his father, of course," continued Marva, while the cameras were working extra hours.

"Joe and I got married again last July, somewhere around Indiana, and this is the beginning of a new life . . . a new, beautiful life. I was hoping for a boy. And there he is . . . a Mexican-American."

That she said it somewhat proudly and gratefully, as if feeling gratitude to the country that gave such a warm and loveful reception to her baby. And Pepito seems to be quite at home at Mexico City, too.

"Joe has been calling me often by long distance. That telephone rings almost every day, and last night we talked for about half an hour. He is really eager to know his son. But it won't be long now. Next July 2 we will fly to Chicago to meet my husband."

Marva said that Joe Sr. has even forgotten all about golf with the arrival of Joe Jr. And she, too, forgot something: her former career. "El Patio" night club officials made her an offer, a good, solid offer, but she refused. "Perhaps they were not aware of the fact that I was about to become a mother . . . and stay a mother," Marva said.

"Of course, I will be back next year," ended charming Mrs. Louis, adding an "I'll be seeing you," full of graciousness.

**Around the Star Dust Circuit**

Pittsburgh Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 7-26-47

**Joe Louis' new son is a Mexican citizen and as such will have to return to Mexico when he reaches the age of 18 . . . In fact, the Champ had a lot of trouble getting his new puncher out of Mexico. The immigration authorities there didn't want to let him go. The Mexicans, it appears, are very proud of the fact that the son of the heavyweight champion was born in their country . . . Henry Thompson, the new 21-year-old second baseman of the St. Louis Browns, played with Havana in the winter league and lost the batting championship to Lou Klein on the final day by five points. Klein is a baseball outlaw because he jumped his St. Louis Cardinal contract and went to Mexico along with Mickey Owen and Max Lanier . . . Thompson made his professional debut with Kansas City when he was 17-years-old . . . Both Jackie Robinson and Larry Doby say that Negro photographers embarrass them by insisting on taking pictures in the dugout while a game is going on. They don't mind posing for pictures before or after a game, but during a contest it creates a problem and takes their minds off the game . . . Major Robinson, the New York scribe who handles Bob Montgomery's publicity raves, has quit shaving until after his boss fights Ike Williams for the title in Philly on Aug. 4 . . . Alex Pompez, the genial owner of the sensational New York Cubans is in charge of the All-Star game in New York Tuesday night. This game is a replica of the East-West classic, and Senior Pompez is staying up nights putting the big show over.**

**Who said Negro players couldn't get to first base in the majors? Two of 'em are standing on it, Robinson and Doby. Henry Thompson is on second for St. Louis and Willard Brown is all the way out in centerfield for the Brownies . . . The Homestead Grays and Kansas City played a night game in St. Louis recently before 15,000 fans . . . Twelve days later the St. Louis Browns signed two Negro players . . . Piper Davis, on whom the Browns hold a thirty-day option, plays professional basketball in the winter with the Harlem Globetrotters . . . Joe Louis is being starred in the movie—"The Fight Never Ends"—During the casting in New York last week, the director was raving because nothing seemed to be going right. "I can't get anything done," he said. "Everything is going bad. I've never had such bad luck."**

**In the midst of the director's furious demonstration, the Champion came through with one of his sage and sharp observations. "Maybe," Louis said to him, "you've broken your contract with God!"**

# THE Courier Salutes

three-fold . . . in the ring . . . out of the ring . . . and in his heart!

It's been ten years since Joe Louis' blazing fists knocked out Jim Braddock and won for him (Louis) the title of the heavyweight champion of the world.

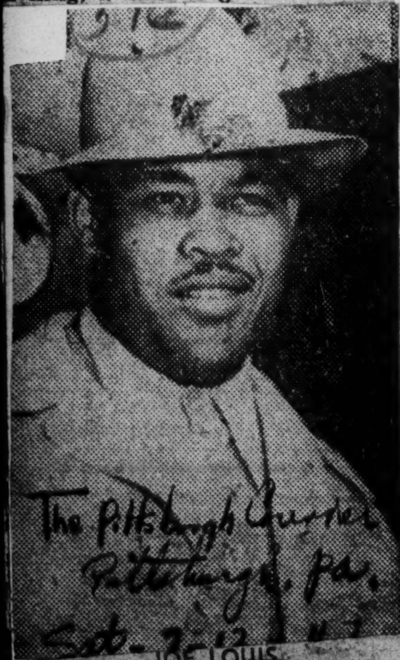
Since that historic night in Chicago, Louis has come down through the years wearing his crown with all the dignity and nobility of a great monarch. Never before in history has there been a champion like him. We are not speaking of his great fighting ability. Everyone in conscious of that. We are speaking of his conduct, both in and out of the ring.

By his gentlemanly conduct and his sence of fair play, Joe Louis has become the most respected athlete in the world. Louis has never tried to use his lofty position to promote himself. He has been modest, sane and deeply conscious of the position he holds and what it stands for.

Never in all the ten year he has held the championship has Louis done anything to disgrace himself, his people or the boxing game. He has never struck a foul blow inside the ring or out. Holding the heavyweight title for ten years is a record. But conducting himself in such a way that he is above reproach is far more important.

His deep sincerity and racial consciousness was clearly expressed the day he said: "If I do anything to disgrace my race, I hope I die!"

That is the pronouncement of a king, a man of greatness. It is



JOE LOUIS

for His Deep Sincerity.

simply said, but profound in its meaning.

We take this opportunity to salute Joe Louis — a champion

The Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 7-12-47

Associated Press

JOE LOUIS & FAMILY

Mon 7-14-47

## Domestic Issues

Joe Louis and his five-week-old heavyweight (15½ lbs.) son, Joe Jr., met for the first time. Joe said, "He's sure big." Joe Jr. put his thumb in his mouth

# Joe Louis Says He Will Retire

Chicago Defender Chicago, Ill.

## 'Fighting Days Over' Bomber Declares

Joe Louis Barrow, 32, world's heavyweight champion and undefeated in the 23 times he has defended his title, announced in San Diego, Calif., that he would retire after the June 26 fight at Yankee Stadium in New York City. This bout was originally planned between the Brown Bomber and the winner of the Joe Baksi versus Bruce Woodcock fight in London on Tuesday, April 15.

But Baksi upset the dope and knocked out the English champion and then decided he wasn't ready for Louis this year. The Twentieth Century A. C. in New York is now lining up Jersey Joe Walcott, father of six children. Walcott defeated Baksi two years ago. Another fighter mentioned for the June bout is Mello Bettina.

**IT WILL BE REMEMBERED** that Louis threatened to quit the ring in 1942 when he was in the army. The champion said at that time "my fighting days are over. I am in the army now. By the time the war is over, I will be in my 30's and that's too old for a fighter."

Louis now says, "My mind is made up. A man can go just so long. If I wait until next year it may be too late."

In a letter to a friend, Mrs. Marva Louis Trotter, divorced wife of the world champion, wrote:

**"I firmly believe, if Joe fights in June, it will be his last. He prefers and wants to live in Los Angeles . . . but I like Chicago."**

It has been rumored that Louis intends to go into the insurance business with headquarters in Detroit where his mother lives.

Sat. 4-26-47

Joe Louis

# Louis-Godoy Bout Draws 'Whistles'

Afro-American 2-15-47 Sat.

## Mexican Explains Booing of Bomber's Exhibition

Baltimore, Md.

**By ALEJANDRO AGUILAR REYES, Editor La Aficion**

MEXICO CITY (Special to the AFRO)—Joe Louis's journey through Latin-America started in a bad way here Friday night with less than 6,000 paid fans booing his tame 10-round exhibition match victory over Arturo Godoy of Chile.

Mexican people don't like exhibitions and they showed their displeaseure by whistling throughout the 10 rounds.

Whistling here means boos. It was provoked by a chain of wrongs on the part of a fellow by the name of Gene Lucas, who came to set up the show.

(Ed. note—Lucas was identified in early American dispatches as an advance representative of Louis and his managers.)

Not knowing the tastes of Mexican fans, Lucas made the mistake of putting on a very weak supporting card, thinking the name of Louis would be enough to fill Plaza El Toros with its 50,000 seats.

The opponent was not the right man. True, he is a Latin-American, but fans here knew all about his poor showing against the Bomber when he lasted 15 rounds in their first fight and was kayoed in the second.

They realized, too, that his actual form today is much lower than it was six years ago for those two fights.

People here don't like exhibitions and they knew it was perfectly impossible for Louis to put on a good one against crouch-shell fellow (Godoy).

### People Misled

Also wrong was propaganda, which was late and told people perhaps it would be a real fight.

The prices ($30 tops) were the highest in history here, higher even than when Ike Williams fought Juan Zurita for the lightweight championship.

Then (Williams-Zurita) the promoter (a local man) put three big shows around the main one—Fritzie Zivic versus Kid Azteca.

For this show, Jimmy McAllister (Baltimore featherweight) was announced on the card, but he arrived a day late and took his place against a local second rater.

Godoy tried to make a showing to get another fight with Louis and this was wrong. For in the fourth round, Joe hit three hard rights at Godoy's chin and stopped, thinking Latin people will not like to see Godoy floored.

But the people were there to see Louis giving kayo (scoring a knockout). Then in the ninth as the whistling became harder (louder) Louis tried a kayo but was tired and failed.

The promoter lost about $100,000 on the fight, but few fans here sympathize.

2-15-47 Sat.

# Joe Barred from Amateur Program

Baltimore, Md. Afro-American

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. — Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis was declared ineligible to appear on any amateur card in the State of Indiana by the Indiana Boxing Commission here last week.

The ring officials announced the ban against Joe when application was made to promote an amateur program which listed the Bomber as an added attraction in an exhibition match.

Sat. 10-25-47

Louis had been booked to appear on several such cards in the state in "exhibition bouts for charity." He was planning to use this as a means of preparing himself for the title defense against Jersey Joe Walcott in New York on December 5.

The plan was to give Louis $1,500 or 50 per cent of the net gate, whichever was the larger. The two promoters and the "charity" were to split the remain 50 per cent, the charity getting 25 per cent.

Walter H. Ringer, commission secretary, said there was a "catch" in such an arrangement and hinted the promoters were using the champion's name as a means of making money for themselves.

# Harlem Sad as 'Joe's Place' Folds

## And Where Will Mural on Negro People Go?

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

Just three blocks from where crowds kept vigil at the Collyer house another bit of drama is being enacted. Joe Louis' Restaurant, just west of Fifth Ave. on 125 St., which only a short time ago opened with fanfare and attracted "names" throughout the city, is being dismantled. "Joe's Place," as it is affectionately called by Harlemites, is being converted into a supermarket. Sat. 4-19-47

Groups of passersby stop in front of the onyx-like facade of the eat-and-drink palace which bears the name of the heavyweight champion of the world. They press their noses to the glass in the revolving door to catch the spirit of the mural on the west wall, or just to get a last glimpse of the swank interior.

**The mural depicts the advances made by the Negro people in all fields of American life—unusual for a night spot. And every peering sightseer wonders what is to become of it.**

Most of them did not have the money to patronize the place, but they drew pride from the mural and the name "Joe Louis" in neon lights above 125 St. 4-19-47

A little old lady comes daily to peer at it. She is no art patron. Her gnarled hands and broken body bespeak work and drudgery—a life of it. She was there the day the workmen took the neon sign down and said sorrowfully "There goes Joe's name; they're taking it down. It won't be there no more." Each day after that she came back to peer at the mural. She just peers and smiles silently and moves on. Sometimes she wonders out loud, "A market still needs a [illegible]

# BAKSI TURNS DOWN MATCH WITH LOUIS

New York Times
New York, N.Y.

## Walcott and Bettina Possible Rivals for Heavyweight Champion June 26

Thurs. 4-17-47

**By JOSEPH C. NICHOLS**

Just who will fight Joe Louis in June is a matter that is causing the Twentieth Century Sporting Club officials considerable anxiety these days. Sol Strauss, acting director of the organization in the absence of Mike Jacobs, was rather certain yesterday morning that he had Joe Baksi of Kulpmont, Pa., all lined up for the heavyweight king's next title defense.

Later in the day, though, Strauss received more than a mild surprise when he learned from Nat Rogers, the Twentieth Century organization's matchmaker, that Baksi was not receptive to an offer to fight the Brown Bomber.

Baksi had moved himself into the role of "logical contender" on Tuesday night by stopping Bruce Woodcock, holder of the British Empire heavyweight title, in seven rounds at the Harringway Arena in London.

**Had Contract Ready**

Rogers was on hand for the clash, and also had a contract ready for the winner. He assumed, reasonably enough, that he would have little trouble getting Baksi to sign for a chance at the world crown.

But Baksi proved an unusually sensible young man. Through his manager, Nat Wolfson, he informed Rogers that he was of no mind to fight Louis this year. Next year, perhaps, but not 1947. The Kulpmont boxer's decision left it squarely up to Strauss to seek another opponent for Louis, for whom he has contracted to provide a challenger in the Yankee Stadium on June 26.

Two warriors were prominently mentioned as possible rivals in the headquarters of the Twentieth Century yesterday. They were Melio Bettina, the Beacon (N. Y.) left-hander who once held the light-heavyweight championship of the world, and Jersey Joe Walcott, veteran campaigner from Camden, N. J.

**Unbeaten as Heavyweight**

4-17-47

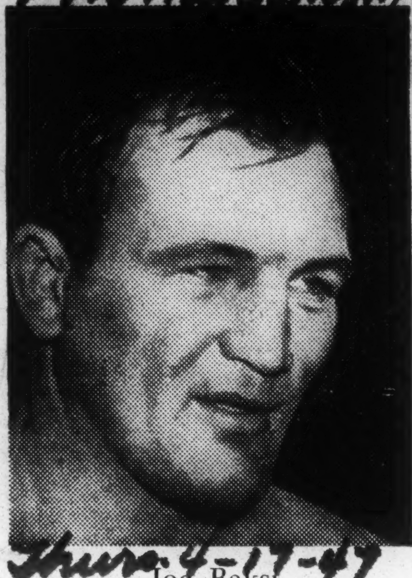
Bettina has yet to lose a fight since growing into a heavyweight, while Walcott, a cagy battler who once served as a sparring partner for Louis, has a victory over Baksi to his credit. The Times

In the hope of settling on an opponent, Strauss plans a conference today or tomorrow with Louis and his co-manager, Marshall Miles. Louis is en route from San Diego where, on Tuesday night, he announced hat he was prepared to retire soon. Because he did not get the stateemnt from Louis first-hand, Strauss was inclined to discount the champion's retirement plans. New York, N.Y.

The 32-year-old Brown Bomber has held the title since 1937, and has defended it twenty-three times.

Won't Fight Louis

PM New York, N.Y.



Joe Baksi

Thurs. 4-17-47

# Louis May Quit if No Foe Is Picked

PM New York, N.Y. Thurs. 4-17-47

Joe Baksi's refusal to sign for a bout with Joe Louis this year following his impressive 7-round knockout of Bruce Woodcock in London has left the 20th Century Sporting Club with no alternative, but to sign either Jersey Joe Walcott or Melio Bettina to meet the champion at Yankee Stadium June 26.

Sol Strauss, acting director of the club during Mike Jacobs' illness, expects to huddle here either today or tomorrow with Louis and his co-manager, Marshall Miles.

Louis declared in San Diego that he was prepared to announce his retirement unless a title defense was arranged for him this Summer.

Joe said that if he retired he would accept an offer to enter the insurance business in Detroit.

Baksi's decision to take a holiday in Czechoslovakia came as a surprise to the 20th Century. So confident was the Jacobs establishment of signing the Kulpmont fighter that Nat Rogers, its matchmaker, was in London with a contract that required only Baksi's signature.

Nat Wolfson, Baksi's manager, told Rogers that he could forget Joe until 1948. 4-17-47

# Louis May Defend Title In September

Courier Journal
Fri. 4-25-47
Louisville, Ky.

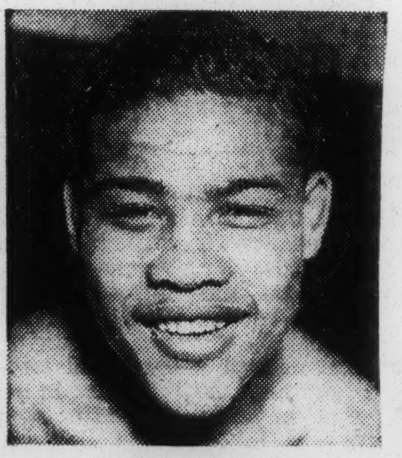
## 20th Century Club Trying to Qualify Bettina for Right to Meet Champ

**By GAYLE TALBOT.**

New York, April 24 (AP)—Joe Louis, the heavyweight champion, declared flatly today that he didn't think there was an outstanding challenger at this time, that he had no intention of defending his crown in June, and that he would fight at the Yankee Stadium in September only if the 20th Century Sporting Club could dig him up a suitable opponent by that time.

The Twentieth Century, represented by Acting Director Sol Strauss during the illness of Mike Jacobs, announced promptly that it was trying to line up an elimination bout at Madison Square Garden on May 23 between Melio Bettina, the southpaw challenger, and Gus Lesnevich, light-heavyweight champion.

Louis, insisting that he didn't want anybody "to have a right to holler," asked that the winner of a proposed bout between Jersey Joe Walcott and Joey Maxim on June 16 in Los Angeles be declared in on the deal, and Strauss promptly agreed. He said the two victors would be matched against each other in New York, and that he hoped he could name Louis' opponent by July 15.



**JOE LOUIS**
**Wants worthy foe.**

**TOOK OVER**

The champion, weighing 219 pounds and sporting a mustache, arrived today from California with his co-manager, Marshall Miles, and lost little time taking charge of the conference held across Jacobs' big desk in the Garden building. As soon as Strauss had announced the abandonment of a June title bout and outlined the elimination program, Joe took over.

"As I see it," he told newsmen from under a large, fuzzy hat, "There's only three men in the running now—Bettina, Walcott and Maxim. None of 'ef deserves it now and I don't think if I was to fight any of them right now it would draw any house. What we're trying to do is build something up." Courier Journal

"Get this straight," Strauss interrupted at this point: "We're not trying to qualify Lesnevich. We're trying to qualify Bettina for a title fight."

"That's right," Joe continued. "Lesnevich ain't in it, only Bettina, Walcott and Maxim. If we picked any one of 'em now, the other two would have a right to holler. I want to fight the best one, and I want it fixed so nobody will have a right to holler."

**ABOUT EVEN**

Fri. 4-25-47

Somebody pointed out that the National Boxing Association had named Walcott, the father of six children, as the logical challenger for the heavy title.

"That's right," the champion admitted, "But I don't see how they figure it out by his record. He and Maxim had two fights and Maxim won the first and Walcott the second. That looks about even to me." Louisville, Ky.

"We haven't shown anybody any favors," Strauss broke in again, taking some of the heat off Joe. "All we want is to find the best man. I think September 19 will be about the best date in the stadium," he added.

Louis said he understood that crooner Frankie Sinatra, who is trying to promote the Walcott-Maxim "rubber" match, already had Maxim's name on a contract. Vic Marsillo, a co-manager of Walcott, spoke up promptly:

**IMPATIENT**

"That suits us. We'll sign to fight Maxim, just so it's understood that the winner gets Louis."

Strauss explained carefully, though somewhat impatiently, that Marsillo was overlooking Bettina. Marsillo only looked unhappy after that.

Louis avowed that, no matter whether they found him an opponent by Septembre or not, he had no intention of retiring. Also, he disclaimed any intention of fighting for any other promoter than the 20th Century. As a matter of fact, he has an ironclad contract with Jacobs that runs through 1950

## Two to Go

Time, New York, N.Y. May 5, 1947

When Joe Louis was just a young heavyweight champion, he thought nothing of flattening seven third-raters in one year It kept him in practice, and pleased the promoters, the public and his pocketbook. Last week Joe Louis was feeling his full 32 years. To the press he announced: "I did the Bum-of-the-Month thing, you know . . . but it isn't worth while now, not at my age." Then, for lack of an able-bodied foe, he called off the fight he had scheduled for June.

He had only two fights left in him, said Joe. He would defend his crown, for the 24th time, in September. Probable victim: second-rater Joe Baksi (*see* PRESS). Then, in another year, he would give someone else a final chance at him, and then retire—as undefeated champion, he hoped.

## Joe Says Two More

**NEVER TRUST** retirement stories, especially with a depression somewhere around the corner, but Joe Louis says he aims to hang them up in 1948, after two more fights, and he may just mean it.

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Daily Worker

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Sat 4-26-47

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New York N.Y.

PM Thur 4-27-47

# Tom Meany:

New York, N.Y.

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PM Thur 4-24

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Tues. 5-13-47

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The first reason for the celebration is, of course, the birthday. Secondly, it is nearly 10 years since Joe acquired the sport's most coveted title.

An insurance company of which the Brown Bomber is an official is throwing the party, complete with cake, candles and all the trimmings.

Tues 5-13-47

PM

New York, N.Y.

A sure sign that retirement years are approaching for Joe Louis is a birthday cake with 33 candles, on which Joe laid traditional big wind at party in Detroit.

Wed 5-14

Associated Press Wirephoto

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Times-Dispatch

Richmond, Va.

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Sun. 1-26-47

The occasion for the eyebrow acrobatics is Joe Louis' forthcoming South American tour and the way the money offers have been pouring has McCarney humming "South America, we'll take it away." This whirl of the bomber's which McCarney is handling, will have nine or ten stops and 21,566 air miles. It starts February 9, winds up March 15 and when it's all over, Louis will net a neat, but not gaudy $250,000 for himself, the professor says.

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McCarney has been able to accept only those nine or ten dates—turning down bids from such places as Bogota, Baranquilla, Cali, Montevideo and Guatemala City.

You, you see, must be back by March 15. That's the day the income tax man comes 'round from Washington and the champion figures he'd better be on hand to straighten out accounts.

"Just think," Billy moans, "we've had to turn down more than half the offers for exhibitions. And just think, each one of them might mean anywhere from $15,000 up.

"For instance, at Lima, Peru, we're guaranteed $15,000 with an option of 50 per cent of the gross gate by the promoter, Alejandro Borda. He's putting on the show with H. J. Koehler, an engineer who's building the Madison Square Garden, of Lima down there, and he figures, joe will draw $80,000. That would mean $40,000 to take home pay."

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Jan. 26-47

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# JOE IS NOT THE MAN THE WRITERS SAY

*The Weekly Review*

New York City (CNS) — The man who has done the most for sports this year is not the heavyweight champion of the world, according to the sports writers who vote on these things every year about this time. Joe Louis, who has been the champ since way before the Pilgrims came, and who will probably remain in that condition until the next war, didn't get enough votes to get him the nod, though he was in there all the way. The champ lost to a football player and if he feels badly about it, he should get some consolation in the knowledge that it wan't personal. *Birmingham, Ala.*

The boys probably considered the two fights in which Louis engaged and decided that one-sided murder is not beneficial to sports by any stretch of the imagination. Joe suffered, in this case, from the poor calibre of the opposition. Had one of his opponents been a real contender, Joe could have shown more stuff, and he probably would have gotten the distinction. From where I stand, it loks bad for Joe again next year too, unless he gets knocked out. *Sat. 1-11-47*

In the second period he sparked a drive from the Illinois 40 that ended with him plunging center for his first touchdown.

A minute later, he alternated with Patterson and Rykovich to real off another 51 yard drive that ended with Patterson crossing the last stripe.

Near the end of the third quarter Buddy turned in his most brilliant performance of broken field running on a lateral that at one point found him 28 yards behind his own line of scrimage. The play ended in a 19 yard gain for Illinois, and set off another 51-yard drive that ended with Buddy plunging center for a touchdown on the first play of the fourth period. *1-11-47*

# People Swell, But Few Good Boxers, Reports Joe Louis On Tour

*Birmingham News, Birmingham, Ala. Wed. 3-12-47*

BY BILL BECKER

LOS ANGELES, March 12—(AP)—"Not very many good fighters down there," says Heavyweight King Joe Louis, just back from an exhibition swing through Latin America.

But—almost in the next breath—"the people are swell, they really gave us a big reception everywhere."

Which revealed the dusky champion as a diplomat, as well as an astute judge of ring talent.

"Nothing much in the way of heavyweights" was what Joe said he encountered in some 13 tune-up bouts among our good neighbors to the south. The veteran and well-worn Arturo Godoy, whom he boxed twice, was about as good as he found anywhere, he said, in the tour which took him through most of the Latin American countries.

He indicated he got his best workouts on the trip from Sparring Partners Walter Hafer and Art Ramsey. *Wed 3-12-47*

"There was one good middleweight in Lima, Peru," Louis admitted, "but I can't remember his name. Those Spanish names are kinda tough for me."

Whatever the trip did for Joe's boxing, it was at least a mild financial success. The champ said the tour grossed $200,000, but didn't know just what the net would come to.

Joe expects he'll be matched in June with the winner of the Joe Baksi-Bruce Woodcock fight in London April 25.

He didn't appear very perturbed at the prospect. *3-12-47*

# Louis Eyes Woodcock Title Bout

*The Courier-Journal, Louisville, Ky. Fri. 2-14-47*

Panama City, Feb. 13 (AP)—Joe Louis is looking forward to a summer title fight with British Empire Champion Bruce Woodcock, says his co-manager, John Roxborough.

The heavyweight champion's current Latin America tour is providing Louis with fine training, Roxborough added. The bomber's handler said Louis liked the idea of a meeting with Woodcock because of the international flavor it would give to boxing.

Louis made the third appearance of his swing through the Americas last night when he boxed tw oexhibition rounds each with his sparring partners, Walter Haefer and Art Ramsey. A crowd of 10,000, including ranking United States and Panama officials, witnessed the program.

Louis' next stop will be at Lima, Peru, where he is scheduled to box an exhibition Saturday.

# Joe Louis To Defend Crown Again June 26

*The Constitution, Atlanta, Ga. Tues. 3-18-47*

NEW YORK, March 17—(AP)—Joe Louis announced today through one of his managers, Marshall Miles, that he will make the twenty-fourth defense of his world heavyweight boxing title on June 26 in New York Yankee Stadium.

Although no opponent was announced, Miles said that "Louis is eager to meet the winner of the bout in London between Bruce Woodcock, the British Empire heavyweight champion, and Joe Baksi of Kulpmont, Pa., provided that contest takes place on or about April 15 and provided, too, that satisfactory terms can be arranged.

Miles made the announcement in the absence of Joe himself who has been in Los Angeles since completing his recent exhibition tour of Latin and South America. The tour ended March 12 in Cuba and Joe left immediately for California.

The announcement was made by Miles after a conference with Sol Strauss, acting director of the 20th Century Sporting Club, during the illness of Promoter Mike Jacobs. The 20th Century Sporting Club will promote the bout.

In addition to the winner of the Woodcock-Baski match, another possible challenger who has been mentioned is Jersey Joe Walcott, Camden, N. J., Negro.

Louis will do his preliminary training at West Baden, Ind., going directly there from Los Angeles on April 5. Later he will move to Pompton Lakes, N. J., where he will conclude the workouts. *Tues. 3-18-47*

Miles said that Louis' June appearance would be his only title defense this year.

# Nine Dates Set For Southern Tour of Louis

*P M New York, N.Y. Mon. 2-3-47*

Nine dates for Joe Louis' South American trip have been set, Billy McCarney, manager of the tour, announced yesterday.

McCarney also disclosed that the guarantee for Louis' exhibition appearance in Lima, Peru, had been increased from $15,000 to $25,000. The date for the six-round exhibition in the Plaza de Acho was set for Feb. 15. Originally, Louis was to have received $15,000 or an option of 50 per cent of the gate, which is expected to hit $75,000. Instead, the champ will take the flat guarantee.

The schedule:

Feb. 9, San Salvador; Feb. 12, Panama City; Feb. 15, Lima; Feb. 19, Santiago, Chile; Feb. 22 or 23, Buenos Aires; Feb. 26, Sao Paolo, Brazil; March 1, Port of Spain, Trinidad; March 5, Caracas; March 12, Havana. *P M*

Financial arrangements for San Salvador, Panama City, Lima, and Port of Spain have been completed, with the guaranteed amounts deposited in U. S. banks. Guarantees for the five other exhibitions will be deposited this week, McCarney said. *Mon. 2-3-47*

## Greatest Fighter

*Constitution*

Editor Constitution: In your estimation, who is or was the greatest fighte. of all time, including all divisions? That is, who is or was the greatest fighter of all fighters? J. W. FRANKLIN.

Atlanta. *Atlanta, Ga.*

(Editor's Note: Nasos, a Greek gladiator, won the fighting championship and then defeated more than 2,000 others who tried to lift the crown from him, of which 1,425 were killed. He must have beer the greatest fighter at all weights. In modern times, we would be unable to choose between Jack Dempsey and Joe Louis.)

## Walcott Gets OK

*PM New York, N.Y. Mon. 4-21-47*

The National Boxing Assn. yesterday gave its "blessing" to Jersey Joe Walcott as an opponent for Joe Louis. A guarantee of $250,000 to Louis to fight in Philadelphia was reported by Chairman Leon Rains of the Pennsy commission.

# I'm Telling You...

## It Would Be a Disgrace Even in the Boxing Business

By JOHN McNULTY

*PM New York, N.Y. Mon. 3-24-47*

The people who run boxing are determined to have Joe Louis fight somebody on June 26, in the Yankee Stadium. The situation in heavyweights being what it is, Louis may wind up that night fighting Barnaby of PM.

The arrangement, in case you haven't been reading such matter, is that the space on the contract where the name of Louis' opponent should appear has been left blank. The champion, through his managers, has agreed only to fight somebody on the night of June 26.

Presumably the result of the fight to be held in London in mid-April, between Joe Baski, Pennsylvania, and Bruce Woodcock, England, would determine who is to be Louis opponent. And, presumably, it would be better for the box-office if Woodcock should win, because that would make the June 26 fight an "international affair" at least. That would be all you could say about it, that it is "international."

For Tami Mauriello flattened Woodcock in five rounds, and Joe Louis took only 2 minutes and 19 seconds to knock out Mauriello. So what, you? Woodcock is simply not a fit person to enter the ring against Louis. Who is? Nobody. The case for Barnaby as an opponent gets better and better, provided Mr. O'Malley is allowed in Barnaby's corner.

Especially since a happening last week, in which Woodcock was a principal. His British managers arranged a "tune-up" bout with a certain Stephan Olek, of France, and the match was held in Manchester. In boxing, "tune-up fight" is an elegant expression meaning "pushover" in plain English.

Well, Woodcock, who at 200 pounds was nearly 13 pounds heavier than this more-than-obsecure Frenchman, took 15 rounds, or all the rounds there were, to gain a decision. This is the man they are going to put in, perhaps, with the champion who held his title against all comers for 10 years.

The Louis-Woodcock match, if it comes off, will be a disgrace. But, in the boxing business, disgrace is a very, very ephemeral condition. The average life of a boxing disgrace, that is, the length of time it bothers anybody, is about 72 hours, according to expert mathematicians.

Come June 26, and in certain circles it will be considered a disgrace not to be present at the disgraceful exhibition in the Yankee Stadium.

* * *

Louis, one of the truly great men of America, when left to himself and not pushed into things he doesn't want to do, has just had the services of two of the hardest-working ghosts in history. *My Life Story*, by Joe Louis, published by Duell Sloan and Pearce, now is in the book stores, and I laid my $2.75, plus tax, on the line for it the other afternoon.

It says on the jacket: "Told for the first time, in Louis' simple narrative form, the true account of the heavyweight champion's rise from an Alabama farm to world-wide eminence." Mon. 3-24-47

Inside the cover, however, is the revealing note, "Written with the editorial aid of Chester L. Washington and Haskell Cohen, to whom I extend my thanks. J. L."

Messrs. Washington and Cohen must be men of tremendous industry. They have sweated out 188 pages, under Louis' name, and written in first person style.

### *Louis Simply Never Talked That Much in His Life*

Now, as everyone knows, Louis is a fighting man, not a talking man. He simply has not spoken 188 pages yet, in my belief, and he is 32 years old. I mean he hasn't spoken 188 pages about himself in his whole life.

The two industrious ghosts have struggled manfully, and I cheer their labors, but the book doesn't sound any more like Joe Louis than Anthony Eden does. (Personally, I'd rather hear Louis say a few words at a training camp than hear Mr. Eden in an hour-long speech.)

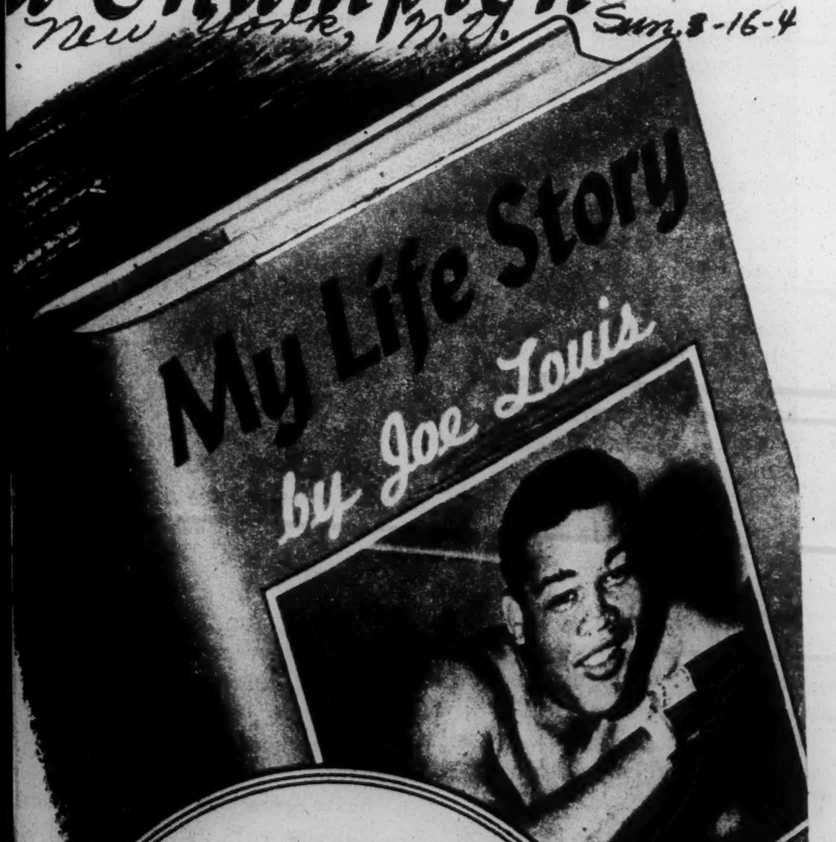
Louis, when he does speak with a crowd of reporters around him, really says something, 100 times out of 100. Witness his famous phrase, "Conn can run, but he can't hide;" witness a dozen other sentences he spoke, over a period of years, in which he said precisely the right thing, with dignity, with a slow, quiet, and highly individual humor.

The heavyweight champion is a phrase-maker, but not a wise-cracker. Someone, in a crowd of interviewers, asks him a question. He pauses a moment, thinks directly what he wants to say, and say it with remarkable clarity, precision, and simplicity. 3-24-47

So when the two industrious ghosts settled down to write what is labeled "an autobiography", they had almost an impossible task. They made an awfully hard try at it, but the job is simply too much for anybody. Louis writes his truest autobiography with his fists.

# The building of a Champion

The Times New York, N.Y. Sun. 3-16-47



Now it's told—the full story

—by Joe himself!

What was the hardest punch the champ ever landed? What man did he put to sleep in 18 seconds? What opponent does Joe claim he knocked out twice in the same fight?

Now! Joe Louis tells all . . . in his own words! Punch by punch, he re-enacts the greatest bouts of his career.

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Sun. 3-16-47

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# Baksi Turns Down Louis Title Shot

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Thurs. 4-17-47

Joe Baksi definitely won't meet Joe Louis this year. This body-blow to the 20th Century Club's June plans came after Nat Rogers unsuccessfully tried to get Baksi following the ex-coal miner's sensational seven round knockout of Bruce Woodcock.

While nobody seriously thinks that Baksi is more interested in a Czechoslovak tour than he is in a money-making adventure with the heavy champ—that was the reason given by his board of strategy in England. The Baksi board's decision, however, is actually based on two things: The broadbacked Pennsylvanian is now a red-hot attraction in Europe with his disposal of Woodcock—and can probably make more money by a series of matches over there with the motley crop of opposition than he possibly could by one big fling at Louis after which he would become just another kayo in Louis' record book.

Maybe they've got something, at that. N.Y. Thurs. 4-17-47

Meantime, Louis is scheduled for a conference here with the 20th Century moguls this afternoon. He's anxious for a June 26 defense, but Joe wants it to make money. Because, as he said in California the other afternoon before hopping a New York bound plane, he's seriously thinking of hanging up the gloves soon. **"My mind is made up. A man can go just so long. If I wait until next year it may be too late."**

Of course, Joe may change his mind, but the dilemma for what may be his last fight still exists. **His backers aren't too anxious for a Walcott or Bettina foe, figuring they won't even half fill the Yankee Stadium. But who else is there, now that Woodcock has been belted out and Baksi won't meet him. From the point of view of justice, Walcott certainly rated that title shot ahead of the two possible foes who've been eliminated. Old Jersey Joe holds a decision over Baksi—and how come 20th Century can't use that as a peg to build up interest in a Louis-Walcott scrap? It would be a legitimate angle, for a change.** 4-17-47

# Tom Meany:

PM

## Bettina Logical Man To Box Joe Louis

New York, N.Y. Thurs. 4-17-47

After traveling around with the Dodgers for a spell, a guy gets used to almost anything. Anything but boxing, that is. The news that Joe Baksi wants no part of the pot of gold to be picked up next June by exposing his kisser to Joe Louis is almost incredible. Baksi is a plodder, a run of [illegible] mill club fighter. It took the fiercest war in the history of mankind to get him into a main bout in the Garden. And now, with a chance to grab himself a bundle, Baksi is going to take a vacation in Czechoslovakia, of all places; in London Tuesday, Baksi made himself more attractive than anybody else on the scene as a June opponent for Louis. His decision to wait a year before tackling the Brown Bomber is all the more mysterious in view of the fact that Louis may quit if he doesn't get a fight this Summer. And an elimination tourney among current heavies to pick the successor to Louis would be about as attractive as watching a late arrival elbow his way into a seat on the Bronx local.

That Baksi wouldn't have much of a chance against Louis is fairly well known. Neither would any of the other availables, if available is the right word for guys like Jersey Joe Walcott and Melio Bettina. The point is that the Kulpmont beer-joint bouncer could have the bout and doesn't want it.

By lathering Bruce Woodcock

### *Beating by Champ Hardly the Reason*

That Baksi has no desire to have Louis inflict physical punishment on him is hardly the reason for ducking the champ. Being pummeled by the Bomber is painful, but transient. Tony Galento looked as though he had been assaulted with a meat-cleaver when Louis finished with him, yet within the hour Tony was setting 'em up in his Orange beer joint.

The beatings administered in a prize fight are largely exaggerated. Many a hockey player has received a worse going over in the course of an ordinary game than a kayo victim of Louis. In fact, many a guy has received a worse beating for talking fresh in a strange bar.

If Baksi really intends to go to Prague and pass up the shot at, or from, Louis, it looks as though Melio Bettina is in line for the nomination. Jimmy Grippo, manager of the southpaw, has been bombarding the press with daily communiques on the availability of his fighter. In fact, he has listed people out West who have $200,000 on hand to guarantee the champion if he will meet Bettina. That these generous people Grippo speaks of exist, there is no doubt. Whether the $200,000 does is something else.

### *Grippo Has Bettina Pose With Stanky*

Melio's qualifications for meeting Louis are at least as good as those of Walcott, which seem to be based entirely on the large family raised by Jersey Joe and the fact that he, like Bettina and Baksi, has never fought Louis and therefore never lost to the champ.

In the course of his tub-thumping to get his tub thumped by Louis in June, Grippo had Bettina pose with boxing gloves on against Eddie Stanky in the Dodger club-house the other day. This was probably as roundabout a method of getting a shot at the heavy-weight crown as is known to man, beast or press agent. New York

Grippo, about as deft a magician as there is in that strange profession, can manipulate playing cards, coins, etc. like anything. If he can manipulate Bettina into the same ring with Louis, it will be his very best trick. And don't bet that he won't do it. Thurs. 4-17-47 PM

51e 1947 Joe Louis (Walcott)

# JOE LOUIS TO FIGHT WALCOTT ON NOV. 14

Times - New York, N.Y.

## Ten-Round Non-Title Meeting With Jersey Ring Veteran Is Booked at Garden

Fri 8-1-47

**By LOUIS EFFRAT**

Joe Louis will not defend his heavyweight championship of the world this year, but he will see action in a non-title bout at Madison Square Garden on Friday night, Nov. 14.

This became known yesterday when Sol Strauss, acting director of the Twentieth Century S. C., announced a ten-round meeting for that date between Louis and Jersey Joe Walcott, Camden, N. J., veteran.

Because all championship matches in this state must be scheduled for fifteen rounds, the affair is listed as a non-title encounter. However, there is a catch to it. In the event of a knockout victory for Walcott, the latter would gain recognition as heavyweight king. Merely outpointing Louis would not suffice. At this early writing the betting is that Walcott will not achieve either distinction.

**Defeated Maxim and Ray**

The New Jersey Negro is 32 years old, six months younger than Louis. In Walcott's last three outings he twice defeated Joey Maxim of Cleveland and triumphed once over Elmer (Violent) Ray of Florida.

Louis, a rabid golfer, plans to play the game daily until September. Then he will drop his clubs and start intensive training at West Baden, Ind. According to Strauss, the fight with Walcott will be the first of two such non-title bouts, another being planned for the Garden early next year.

For the champion, the Nov. 14 meeting will mark his first indoor appearance since he stopped Abe Simon in six rounds at the Garden in 1942. Louis risked his title on that occasion for the benefit of Army Emergency Relief. Earlier he had knocked out Buddy Baer in one round, with the Naval Relief Fund the beneficiary.

Fri 8-1-47

**Lesnevich Not Interested**

It developed that talk of a possible match between Louis and the winner of Wednesday night's Gus Lesnevich-Tami Mauriello bout at Ebbets Field was just that—talk. Lesnevich, who outpointed Mauriello, said yesterday he was not the least bit interested in meeting Louis.

# Louis-Walcott Bout To Be for Championship

Atlanta Constitution, Atlanta, Ga.

NEW YORK, Sept. 15—(AP)—The scheduled non-title fight between Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis and Jersey Walcott, of Camden, N. J., was scrapped today and instead the two will meet in a championship 15-round bout at Madison Square Garden Dec. 5.

The Twentieth Century S. C., in making the announcement today, said that both principals had agreed to the change. They were originally scheduled to clash in the non-title 10-rounder at the Garden Nov. 14 but the date was put back in order to give Louis more time to train.

# this corner

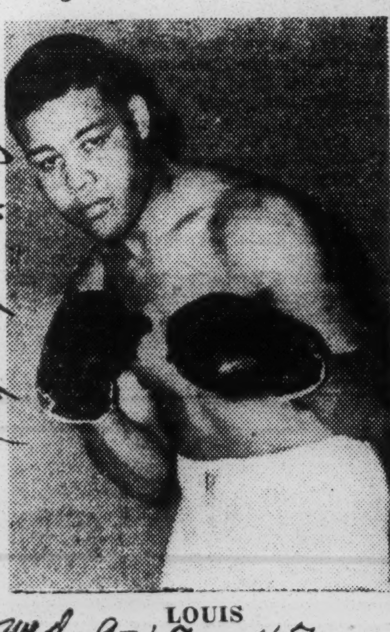
Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

**Never Made Any Sense**

Wed. 9-17-47

**By Bill Mardo**

I'M QUITE SURE Jersey Joe Walcott won't be long for the third round unless brother Barrow is most charitable the night of December 5, but that has nothing to do with nothing and it's glad I am that everything is now according to Hoyle, a title match, and over the regulation route. Never could see Walcott getting any less a chance than the Ropers, Mustos and Paycheks, and in my book old Jersey is ten times the fighter those worthies were. And while that's no great recommendation, I'll admit, he is the leading challenger whereas those other gents couldn't even lead with their left and yet they got a chance at boxing's biggest prize and so there was no need to start getting coy about it at Walcott's expense. But then again promoters oft get queer notions and it's to one of Eddie Eagan's very rare credits that he talked 20th Century into the sensible switch. By now all concerned should have learned never to discuss Louis' foes in the light of actual ability to beat him. The heavyweight division hasn't been rich with competition since the turn of the century and it's testimony to Louis that he, at least, put it on the line against everyone who weighed over 175 pounds and could slip two hands into a pair of mittens. More than that nobody could ask of the champ. Joe couldn't make the opposition better than it was. Or is. But in line with that policy, it's good to see Walcott getting his chance too, and the biggest paycheck of his life for the pains. But frankly, I wouldn't do it for twice the price.



LOUIS

Daily Worker Wed. 9-17-47

# ARTICLES ACCEPTED FOR DEC. 5 CONTEST

## Louis and Walcott Agree to Terms for 15-Round Bout in the Garden Ring

New York Times, N.Y. New York

## BOMBER AT 216 POUNDS

## Expects to Lose Eight During Training at Jersey Camp—Rival May Weigh 192

World Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis, sporting a mustache and about 216 pounds, and Jersey Joe Walcott yesterday affixed signatures to formal contracts for their fifteen-round clash at Madison Square Garden on Dec. 5.

The Brown Bomber and the Camden, N. J., veteran greeted each other with a crisp "Hello, Joe" at the Twentieth Century Sporting Club, where final details were ironed out. Then they went to the New York State Athletic Commission offices to sign the official documents. Each posted a $5,000 appearance forfeit.

**Rival Managers Attend**

Accompanying the champion from his Pompton Lakes, N. J., training camp was his manager, Marshall Miles. Joe Webster, Walcott's pilot, also was present. Acting Promoter Sol Strauss represented the Twentieth Century organization. 11-4-47

Following the customary picture-posing and contract ceremonies, Louis and Walcott returned to their training camps. Walcott has been going through his paces for the past three weeks at Grenloch, N. J.

Louis, who will be defending his title for the twenty-fourth time since he knocked out Jim Braddock in 1937, figures to lose eight pounds in training. Walcott weighs 200 and expects to enter the ring at about 192. Tues.

**Plans Boxing Wednesday**

Louis, who arrived at Pompton Lakes last Saturday, probably will begin boxing on Wednesday. Walcott has already gone through some sparring sessions at his camp.

The Bomber, who will again be favored to keep the crown, probably will receive 45 per cent of the net gate and Walcott 15 per cent.

Included in the details worked out at the Twentieth Century offices was the provisions for a return bout next June if Walcott should win. However, Walcott and his manager refused to sign an agreement which would give Twentieth Century exclusive rights to the New Jersey heavyweight's services if he should capture the crown.

# Joe's Challenger Wants Title To Send Wife to Med. School

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

Thur. 10-16-47

Jersey Joe Walcott is determined to become world heavyweight champion on Dec. 5 so that he can provide well for his six children and send his wife through college.

As the Camden Negro challenger began serious roadwork among the cedars and pines in beautiful Grenloch Park, he disclosed to reporters that his wife, Lydia, already was attending Temple University in Philadelphia.

"She's taking a pre-medical course," he said. "She wants to become a doctor."

A sports writer inquired how old was Lydia, the mother of six children.

With a grin, the challenger of Joe Louis replied, "She's younger'n me. I'm 33, and she's 29."

The broad-shouldered, 200-pounder in the red-checkered logger's shirt, heavy semi-boots, and knitted blue navy watch-cap noted the probing glances of reporters when he said he was 33; so he added emphatically:

"That's right; I'm only 33. And I got a birth certificate to prove it. I was born in January, 1914. I'm about four months older'n Louis. He was born in May, 1914."

Who took care of the six kids while Joe was training at Grenloch and his wife was studying at Temple? Walcott explained that his sister, Naomi, cares for the brood; but that she gets plenty of assistance from wife who commutes daily between their Camden home and Philadelphia. Thur. 10-16-47

His children are Arnold, 14; Alva 12; Doris, 10; Ruthie, 8; Vince, 6 and Carrol, 3.

As Wolcott and Manager Joe Webster chatted with newsmen the challenger disclosed that he believed he had just the right boxing-punching style to beat Louis.

He said "I'm not questioning the fact that Louis has been a great fighter. But nobody knows now what he's got left. He hasn't had a tough fight since 1941 when he knocked out Billy Conn the first time. Louis never was fast on his feet; and he'll be slower now than he ever was. Because if you don't keep those legs busy—after you pass 30—they'll go on you.

"Because Louis was always slow-footed, he usually let his opponents do the leading — let's them open themselves up so he could nail 'em with counter punches. Oh, he was a beautiful counter - puncher all right. But when I get into the ring with him at Madison Square Garden in December, he'll be meeting someone who won't lead at him. He'll be meeting someone who can feint a lead and let Louis counter at the air. And I can counter pretty good myself. I hit pretty hard too. If Joe gets careless, I'll knock him out. I'm not promisin' I'll knock him out; but I think I can lick him."

Walcott, who now weighs 203 pounds and who expects to fight at 192, will begin boxing in about two weeks. Lydia and the kids will attend one of the early sparring sessions in a body—to cheer pappa on toward victory over the great champion who now is training at West Baden, Ind.

# Dempsey Gives Walcott Chance To Win Title; Says Too Bad Boxing In Doldrums

By BOB DUNNE

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Sept. 18.—(AP)—His name still magic and his opinions still respected among America's fight fans, Jack Dempsey today deplored the doldrums in which the boxing world finds itself.

As for the forthcoming Joe Louis - Jersey Joe Walcott title brawl the one-time Manassa Mauler—now on another wrestling-referee tour—gives Walcott "a chance" of dethroning Louis.

Dempsey — traditionally called on to comment when there's big doings along Tin-Ear Alley — qualified that prediction:

"Walcott's a fast boy, as they go nowadays. In fact, if he can last four or six rounds, we might have a new champ."

Otherwise, Dempsey agreed that Jersey Joe will become just another colorful name on Louis' long list of victims.

"Anyway, Walcott's got a better chance than anybody else up to Dec. 5," 52-year-old Jack laughed. That's the date Louis will dangle the world's heavyweight championship before Jersey Joe in the Madison Square Garden ring.

"I haven't seen Louis work lately and don't know what kind of condition he's in," the former heavy king said. "But I do know that he hasn't been fighting and, you know, you've got to do that to stay in shape."

No matter who wears the crown after Louis is either beaten or retires, Dempsey figures it's still too bad about the way boxing has slumped:

"Everyone counted on the war to produce a crop of new, good faces. But it just didn't work out that way. We took the big military job more seriously and didn't concentrate on sports."

Ring interest might perk up in a couple of years, he said, but he didn't think it'll ever again match the "good old days."

"Fighters used to hit a town and look for somebody to fight. When they found him, that's all there was to it. Of course, you can't do that now."

Dempsey said the formula was: "More fights, better fighter."

Modern ring masters and their managers just can't operate on that basis and that, partially, accounts for the present humdrum state of affairs, he said.

It was different in the old golden days, Jack Dempsey reminisced when there were like Tommy Gibbons, Louis Firpo, Bill Brennan and a gentleman named Tunney.

## AFTER PRINCIPALS SIGNED FOR HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE BOUT

Joe Walcott (left) and Joe Louis shaking hands yesterday as Boxing Commissioner Eddie Eagan looks on

# Louis Starts Serious Work

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., Nov. 5 — (AP) — Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis Wednesday opened serious training for his Dec. 5 Madison Square Garden title bout with Jersey Joe Walcott, and boxed savagely through four spirited rounds with two spar mates.

It was the first time Louis had done any serious boxing since his one-round knockout of Bronxite Tami Mauriello 14 months ago. Louis weighed 216 pounds for the workout. He said he planned to enter the ring at 208 or 209.

The champion went two three-minute rounds with Jimmy Bell, of Washington, D. C., and two three-minute rounds against a regular sparring partner, George Fitch. He had both boys in trouble with a vicious attack.

George Nicholson, former spar mate of Louis, who now helps in the training of the champ, said "Joe looked like the Louis of old. He looked much better than in his first workout for the Mauriello fight. He could step in there tomorrow."

# Louis' Split In Walcott

# Fight Is 78G

Joe Louis figures to make approximately $78,750 in his heavyweight title defense against Jersey Joe Walcott at Madison Square Garden, it was revealed yesterday when the two principals went through another contract signing formality, this time for the benefit of the New York Boxing Commission.

The Commission ceremony revealed that Louis will receive 45 per cent of the net gate and Walcott 15 per cent. If the Garden is sold out for the bout, gross receipts are expected to aggregate $250,000, making the net in the neighborhood of $175,000. Forty-five per cent of that would make Louis' purse $78,750 while the challenger's cut would be $26,250.

All details and terms of the contract had been worked out prior to yesterday's signing. However, the Walcott camp refused to sign an agreement which would give the 20th Century Sporting Club exclusive rights to the New Jersey heavyweight's services should he win the title. Thus if Walcott wins the title and then defends it successfully against Louis next June—the contracts stipulate such a return bout in the event of a Walcott victory—Madison Square Garden and 20th Century would lose control of the heavyweight crown for the first time since Louis won it from Jimmy Braddock in 1937.

Louis and Walcott, who never have been warm friends, greeted each other with the same two words as they appeared at the office of Commission Chairman Eddie Eagan for the ceremony. They were:

"Hello, Joe."

# Louis-Walcott bout may get boycotted

NEW YORK—What with one thing and then another, things haven't gone well with heavyweight champion Joe Louis this year, which, at best, is his next to last one as kingpin of the king-sized fisticuffers. Hard as it's tried, 20th Century club hasn't been able to scrape up a likely opponent for their main attraction, and have been unusually hard-put latching onto even a repulsive one. But its troubles are many besides this.

Here this week New York's Boxing Managers' Guild pulled a brand-new headache out of the bag for 20th Century to sit & groan over. It was handed out an ultimatum: by Nov. 15, 20th Century better come to terms on the split of the television profits, else a boycott.

The boycott, which NYBMG has used effectively against champions & championship matches before (Lightweight champion Ike Williams was kept out of Madison Square Garden all last year by one), mounts to all the guild members refusing to let their fighter appear on the supporting card, which, in this case, would strip down the already stripped down Dec. 5 Louis-Walcott title fight at Madison Square Garden to nothing.

Threat of the boycott was spread by grapevine, as usual, for good reason. The boycotts are never openly arrived at, nor publicly announced for the simple reason that the New York Boxing Commission would & could disband the Guild if a boycott could ever be proved against it.

Louis (Walcott)

# CHAMPION ON EDGE FOR 24TH DEFENSE

New York, N.Y.

## Louis Bids for 15th Straight Knockout Tonight—Walcott Ready for Best Effort

Fri. 12-5-47

## 18,000 WILL PAY $230,000

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### Brisk Ticket Sale Due to Top 20-Year-Old Record Gate for Garden Boxing

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**HOW RIVALS COMPARE**

| LOUIS | | WALCOTT |
|---|---|---|
| 33 | Age | 33 |
| 212 | Weight | 194 |
| 6 ft. 2 in. | Height | 6 ft. |
| 76 in. | Reach | 74 in. |
| 42 in. | Chest (Normal) | 40 in. |
| 45 in. | Chest (Expanded) | 43 in. |
| 17 in. | Neck | 17 in. |
| 15 in. | Biceps | 16 in. |
| 12 in. | Forearm | 13 in. |
| 8 in. | Wrist | 7½ in. |
| 11¾ in. | Fist | 12 in. |
| 36 in. | Waist | 35 in. |
| 22 in. | Thigh | 21½ in. |
| 14 in. | Calf | 14 in. |
| 10 in. | Ankle | 9¾ in. |

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**By JAMES P. DAWSON**

The twenty-year gate receipts record for Madison Square Garden boxing will be shattered tonight when Joe Louis, world heavyweight champion, defends his title in a bout scheduled for fifteen rounds against Jersey Joe Walcott, Camden challenger.

Promoter Sol Strauss, directing the Twentieth Century Sporting Club during the convalescence of Mike Jacobs, forecast a gate of $230,000 and a crowd in excess of 18,000, basing his prediction on a demand for tickets which surprised many associated with the battle. When the box office closed last night only tickets priced at $20 and $30 remained.

The record Garden gate of $201,613, drawn by Jack Delaney and Jim Maloney in 1927, was faced with eclipse by the traditional crowd from every walk of life for heavyweight championship attendance. Choice ringside seats were available only at a premium last night despite their $30 face value. Desirable locations in the lower price brackets likewise were being sought and sold at prices above face value.

**Ring's Most Active Champion**

In the final analysis, the tremendous crowd will serve as a tribute to the popularity and drawing power of Louis, most active champion the ring has known and one of the greatest heavyweight titleholders. In meeting Walcott, the champion will be risking his title against the best of a poor lot of heavyweights. Originally the bout had been scheduled merely as an exhibition, so completely has Louis devastated the ranks of contenders since he lifted the title from Jim Braddock in 1937.

Making his twenty-fourth defense of the crown, Louis will be engaging in his sixtieth professional fight. In his third championship bout since his discharge from the Army he will be seeking his fifteenth straight knockout conquest.

Louis is to receive 45 per cent of the net receipts, together with a percentage of movie, radio and television rights. It is estimated his purse will amount to $100,000. Walcott signed for 15 per cent of the net and likely will collect $30,000, his largest purse.

The bout, starting at 10 o'clock, will be broadcast over WJZ in New York and a nation-wide hook-up of the American Broadcasting Company. It will be televised by the National Broadcasting Company.

**Mauriello Stopped in First**

Indicative of amazing interest is the fact that the bout will be covered by more newspaper men than reported Louis' last defense of the title in which he knocked out Tami Mauriello in one cyclonic round on Sept. 18, 1946. From all parts of the country boxing writers are assembled, in addition to some from England, France, Sweden, Denmark, Spain, Italy, Australia, South Africa, Canada and Latin America.

Louis and Walcott were resting in seclusion on the eve of battle, the champion at his Pompton Lakes (N. J.) training quarters and the challenger at an undisclosed hotel here. They are to weigh in this noon at the Garden under supervision of Chairman Eddie Eagan of the State Athletic Commission.

Eagan reiterated the commission alone would select the referee and judges. This emphasized the fact that the board would not be influenced by a request from the Walcott camp that a referee other than Arthur Donovan, rated by many as America's outstanding ring official, be chosen.

Betting on the fight is extremely light. Many books reported no action yesterday because Louis was such a prohibitive favorite at 1 to 9. Indications were that the champion would be a 1-10 or even stronger favorite today.

**Quotations on Knockout**

Louis was quoted at 5 to 6 to knock out Walcott within four rounds and at 1 to 3 to win within ten rounds. Apparently no one expects the bout to go its scheduled fifteen rounds and few accord more than an outside chance to Walcott.

This chance is there, nevertheless, for Walcott is trained to the minute and ready for battle, as is Louis. Walcott, who in sixteen years of ring action has retired on half a dozen occasions, will be in there only because no one else appeared capable of giving battle to Louis or had the disposition even to enter the same ring with the titleholder.

Two years of comeback fighting qualified Walcott for this chance-of-a-lifetime bout. Over that span he conquered a nondescript group of heavyweights, but he has trained more for this bout than for any other of his career. He has a tricky style, a fast delivery and a capable right-hand punch. Exposure to a right always has been Louis' weakness.

Yet in Louis' ten-year reign as champion more damaging punchers than Walcott have let fly at the titleholder's jaw with no more result than to enrage Louis. Taking into consideration the fact Louis unquestionably has passed his peak, giving full weight even to the champion's admission of perceptible slowness on defense, Louis still is a paralyzing hitter.

Bigger than ever before, the champion is convinced he will be hitting as hard if not harder than ever, and he should dispose of Walcott without too much trouble. Perhaps the first punch Louis strikes, the first good, clean, powerful one, that is, will end the battle, whether it be in the first, third or sixth round.

Bill Weinberg, Chelsea (Mass.) heavyweight, will face Austin Johnson of Atlantic City, N. J., in the six-round semi-final. In other six-round heavyweight bouts Gene Jones of Philadelphia will meet Bob Garner of Louisville, Ky., and Jimmy Bell of Washington will oppose Perk Daniels of Chicago. Three four-round heavyweight bouts also are scheduled.

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## POINT SYSTEM URGED

Times

### NBA Official Blames Walcott's Defeat on Scoring by Rounds

New York, N.Y.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6 (AP)—Harvey L. Miller, executive secretary of the National Boxing Association, said tonight that the "Walcott-Louis bout proves once again the need for national coordination in boxing and uniformity of scoring."

"The antiquated system of scoring by rounds, as used in New York, with a barely won round counting on a parity with one won by the proverbial mile, invites trouble and criticism," he said in a statement.

"The system most generally used is the 'must 10' system where the winner of a round is marked '10' and the loser from '1 to 9' in proportion.

"On rounds punctuated by knockdowns the boxer scoring the knockdown is scored highly, i. e., '10 to 3,' '10 to 4,' depending upon how good the loser of a round shows. The only way to really even up such a round is to have knockdowns scored by both participants.

"Under the 10-point must system, Walcott would have won."

## Fight Talk

For three days, Joe Louis lay low in Harlem. Then the champ, smoked out by the New York *Post's* Columnist Jimmy Cannon, talked for three hours about the fight* without once mentioning the name of his opponent, Jersey Joe Walcott. "He did so many wrong things," said Joe, "I saw every opening, but I couldn't go get him. . . . I couldn't do a lot of things." The trouble was, said Joe, he was dehydrated. "I killed myself taking off four pounds. But that ain't no excuse."

Two days later Joe Louis showed up at the opening of a new Negro nightclub. He was now a partner in a publicity outfit, and the nightclub was one of his clients. Already the owner of a soft drink called "Joe Louis Punch," the champ was thinking of going into the beer business too. What about the next fight? To a gathering of reporters, Louis announced that there would be one more bout in June, but that was all. "I had enough. I been around a long time." Joe said he'd like to fight either Joe Walcott or Light-Heavyweight Gus Lesnevich. Nobody took the remark seriously: it was obviously part of the maneuvering to scale down Walcott's terms for a return match. At least there'd be an anguished outcry if Joe Louis fought anyone but Walcott. A reporter asked Louis: did he have enough money to retire? "Yeah." Then, with a grin: "I can always go back to the Ford plant. I'm on leave of absence."

* Correctly described by Franklin P. Adams as "a 15-round bout at fisticuffs between Mr. Barrow and Mr. Cream."

# THROUGH THE YEARS

By FAY YOUNG

Journal & Guide, Norfolk Va

**AS FIGHT TIME** draws near for the 24th defense of his title, Joe Louis is getting much peeved about some stories credited to Jersey Joe Walcott and coming from Walcott's camp.

51e

Now we hate to think of Mr. Louis getting sore. He usually knocks his opponents out because it is a matter of business and is the very best way not to lose his title. Once a man is flat on his back and the referee stands over him counting off 10 seconds and he stays down until "10" is reached there isn't any chance that some judge has seen "wrong." They sometimes do—or at least the general public which pays to see these fights and the men in the press row, who get on "a jelly" (meaning they don't pay), say are wrong.

FAY YOUNG

Sat. 12-6-47

yhow, let's get back to Joe getting . We hate to see him mad because the ime we saw him "hotter than a boiled owl" was when he went after Max Schmeling the second time. Joe was champion. Max had made some detrimental remarks about Joe's fighting ability and that Louis couldn't take it or some such thing.

The result was that Schmeling didn't last through the first round.

**WE ARE ADVISING** Walcott that he better keep his trap shut until after Friday night, Dec. 5.

Walcott has been saying that he hit Louis so hard during the training at Lakewood, N. J., where Louis was conditioning for the first Schmeling fight that the late Jack Blackburn, trainer of Louis, hustled Walcott to the showers. That was in the first round of the first day that Walcott showed up to workout with Louis at $25 per round.

The next day, according to Walcott, Louis tried to get even but he (Jersey Joe) kept his right into Louis' jaw jabbing him dizzy but for only one round because Walcott says he was "invited" to leave the camp.

**It seems as though nobody but Jersey Joe remembers knocking the Brown Bomber down. The truth of the matter, according to our recollection, is that Louis slipped.**

Walcott was relieved of his sparring duties after both Trainer Blackburn and Julian Black, then co-manager of Louis, were told by Jersey Joe that he couldn't stand the Brown Bomber's walloping him around like he did.

Norfolk, Va. 12-6-47

**BUT LOUIS IS** getting real sore about the stories Jersey Joe is dishing out. "I don't remember him doing it but I sure would have remembered if he had me on the floor," the champion says. "I do know that we used 26 different sparring partners in that Lakewood camp. A lot of them hit with right hands, the same as Schmeling did, but none of them knocked me down."

Walcott had better be careful cause when Joe Louis gets mad he's worse than a wild tiger.

It looks like round two or three—or maybe less on Dec. 5—with Mr. Cream (that's Walcott's right name) getting "churned" up rather badly.

# On the Score Board

51e

Daily Worker

By Lester Rodney

New York, N.Y.

## A New Vantage Point

**LET'S US SPORTS FANS** chat a little about the fight, about the sports writers' strange differences of opinion, the radio broadcast, the fight pictures. For I am one of you on this controversy. I wasn't there either In my expert wisdom I visualized a quick and routine knockout, and stayed home.

**Ah, hindsight. There are no more "upsets" in boxing than in football. Any scribe possessing the good sense to listen to Joe Louis saying clearly that he had slowed down, and having the perception to see that Walcott, with all to gain and little to lose, was not afraid, and was a smart ringman geared for a supreme effort, might have at least hinted at the possibility of a close fight.**

Missing it wasn't all bad, it turns out. For the first time in a long while I find myself exactly in the position of the average fan who listens on the radio, reads the newspaper accounts, and wonders how in the world a group of men can sit peering at the very same event and come to opposite and stoutly defended conclusions.

Some ten years ago I watched Joe Louis make his first title defense, against Tommy Parr, sent along a story to the British Daily Worker speaking of the good game go of the Welsh coalminer, but explaining that he didn't have the fistic equipment to make it close, and came into the office the next morning to be overwhelmed by a barrage of **"They really robbed that poor Farr, didn't they?"** It seemed there were two different fights, the one I had seen, and the one they had heard.

Wed. 12-10-47

**"Farr comes in with a left and a right and a left and another right!** Louis lands a left." That was on the radio. In the ring Louis at that juncture had stood almost bored, back to the ropes, and waited until the light-hitting Farr had expended a harmless little flurry of roundhouse taps against his gloves, arms and ribs. Then, with one blow, he almost decapitated the poor challenger.

51e

### *Surprise! Surprise!*

**BEING ONE BANK** account to the right of television ownership, and on a newly launched anti-beer diet, I took the Louis-Walcott fight over the radio. When the last round ended I was completely prepared to hear the announcement that Joe Walcott was the winner and new world champion.

Then I went to the Trans-Lux theater on Broadway and caught the fight films. The house was packed and a special sign on the box-office window announced, "No passes accepted this week"

**After viewing the films I could see where it was possible for two sports writers to have two completely different and honest opinions on the winner. It's only decent to add that the radio broadcast by Don Dunphy wasn't as outlandishly bad as some have made it out to be. As a fair test, try watching the fight pictures while imagining yourself the announcer attempting to describe what you see. It's not the easiest job in the world and there's no time for even the little unexcited moment of perspective granted the most rushed sports writer as he starts working on his story after the fight. Surprise at seeing a great champion dumped by a 10-1 underdog must add to the quick description a dramatic overtone which can give the impression of a near knockout.**

This was no Louis-Farr affair. This was close. There was no booing at the Yankee Stadium after the Farr fight and not a single writer thought that Farr had come 10 miles of winning. At the Garden many eye-witnesses stood up and clearly indicated their displeasure with the decision. Inasmuch as the odds and general forecast of the fight were such as to preclude betting on the outcome, it can be assumed that the booers were not all disappointed short-end gamblers. And sports scribes of some stature are ranged on opposite sides.

### *Self Criticism*

**ALSO, WATCHING LOUIS** start disgustedly through the ring ropes before the decision was even announced, it was my clear feeling that the champ thought he had lost. But, of course, Joe wasn't keeping score.

**From the practically complete filming of the fight I would tend to agree with those who gave Louis the edge in number of rounds won. And that's the way fights are traditionally scored and decided.**

It all depends on how much importance you give to knockdowns. Generally the man who scores the only knockdown of a round wins that round. My own feeling is that scoring by rounds won can be too rigid, and that evenly splitting a round won by a forward step and light left jab against one gained by a flooring punch is unfair to the knockerdowner.

So if you want to consider knockdowns worth more than judges Marty Monroe and Frank Forbes essayed them, you might conceivably arrive at . . .

**But here, here! I'm just a sports fan who didn't see the fight . . . where is this thing taking me?**

# Sports of the Times

Times New York, N.Y.

By ARTHUR DALEY

## For the Champion of the World

Wed. 12-4-47

THE ventilation system at Madison Square Garden probably has cleared the air of any lingering fumes from the LaMotta-Fox bout. But if any of them should remain, a gust of good, wholesome and clean air is due to sweep through the hall tomorrow. Joe Louis, as invigorating and refreshing as a cool breeze on a sultry summer's day, will whisk majestically into the arena for the twenty-fourth defense of his world heavyweight championship.

The Dark Destroyer always has been the best argument that boxing's apologists have been able to offer for the continuation of the sport. Not a breath of scandal ever has touched him. He's never done a mean or petty thing. It's true that he's fought an occasional bad fight—the law of averages alone would dictate that—but he always tried his best and gave the full 100 per cent of his efforts. The heavyweight king has been truly regal in every respect, wearing his crown with more dignity and distinction than most of those who actually were born to the purple.

If it were not for the fact that the Brown Bomber represents the most noble aspects of the Manly Art of Self-Defense, there could be no adequate excuse for getting at all enthusiastic about tomorrow's fisticuffing engagement with Jersey Joe Walcott. The kindest thing anyone can say about Jersey Joe is that he's an admirable family man with a wife and six children. He has slightly more than that to offer, of course. Otherwise Papa Dionne might gain consideration as a Louis foe.

Walcott has had a rather checkered career. He fought for "peanuts" in his early days—when he was lucky enough to get a match. Disillusioned and discouraged—and starving—he quit the ring often and just as often returned to get a little extra food money. For a while he even was on relief and took back-breaking jobs as a day-laborer in his frantic efforts to keep his flock fed, clothed and housed. And now he's fighting for the heavyweight championship of the world, the age old rags-to-riches business that Horatio Alger exploited so memorably.

wed. 12-4-47

### No Heir Apparent

Since he embarked on his latest comeback, Jersey Joe has done fairly well. But he still has no more right to be meeting the Brown Bomber than any other oversize gent who might be lucky enough to connect with his Sunday punch. As a matter of fact, this originally was billed as an exhibition and finally switched to a title fight, not that that makes Jersey Joe one whit more formidable.

One day last summer Sol Strauss, the legal light who is struggling to carry the ball for the ailing Mike Jacobs, discussed with the Dark Destroyer the possibilities of a championship bout. "Now, Joe," he warned, "I'm not trying to sell you anything."

"Mr. Strauss," drawled Louis, demonstrating once again his uncanny knack of saying the correct thing in the best possible way, "you ain't got nuthin' to sell."

The market hasn't changed a bit since then. Jersey Joe hasn't grown one cubit in stature nor has he added any more dynamite to his fists. He's just an amiable old codger of 33 (at least that's his admitted age) who is generously admitted to membership in the Joe Louis Old Age Security Program. wed. 12-4-47

However, Jersey Joe can't possibly be as unbelievably bad as was Johnny Paychek, a pugilistic Casper Milquetoast. Nor is he likely to put on as sonambulistic a show as did Arturo Godoy, a fistic pretzel-bender. The Dark Destroyer still shakes his head sadly every time he gets around to talking about that horrendous affair.

"What a fight!" he says with a sigh. "Nobody got hurt but the customers."

### They Freeze Up

No one can tell as yet how Walcott will react as the time of the bout approaches. That's rather important. Some mighty brave and bold citizens have suddenly turned craven just as they were about to enter the ring against the Brown Bomber. There's no particular need to mention names. They've been pretty well identified by now. Warm words of defiance begin to droop icicles. Hidden hands clutch fearfully at heartstrings. An invisible earthquake shakes knees. That's what Louis has done to folks even before he delivered his first punch.

Long before the Jolter became champion, he had his rivals doing too much pre-fight thinking. It seemed to affect them all, extending even to Paulino Uzcudun, the indestructible and fearless Basque. Just before he clashed with the Jolter he had only one visitor in his dressing room, Harry Markson, now Uncle Mike's propaganda chief but then a boxing writer.

Paulino scowled at him. "I'm a sports writer," said Harry brightly.

"All sports writers' crazy," grunted Paulino, thus poaching on the preserves of psychiatrists.

"But, Paulino," insisted Harry, "I'm the only sports writer in town who picked you to beat Joe Louis."

"Oho," roared Paulino, "now I know you crazy."

The Basque had been so tough that he'd never even been knocked down before and he fought carefully from a crouch, his arms protectively held across his face. There was just nowhere to hit him. The Brown Bomber pawed and jabbed into the fourth round with Paulino intact. But then the craggy-featured Basque got curious. He raised one arm a fraction of an inch to peer out.

Boom! The Louis right snaked through that tiny opening with explosive force. It sounds horrible but the power of that punch ripped all of Paulino's front teeth out of their anchorage and piled them into the back of his mouth. It was one of the most destructive punches in the history of the sport.

That, of course, happened a dozen years ago and the Jolter is that much older. But so is Walcott. It's going to be a mighty sad day when the Louis reign ends. However, there is no particular reason to suppose that it will end tomorrow.

## The Mailbag

**"Dear Bill:**

**"Your article of Dec. 8 on the Louis-Walcott fight did my old heart a lot of good. It seems you have to be a Marxist these days even to judge fairly who should be heavyweight champion of the world.**

**"There are a few points I see in this fight that no one seems to have mentioned. (1) Walcott would have been warned in Europe to fight and might have been disqualified for not contributing his fair share to the evening's work. (2) On the few occasions Louis decided not to force the fight not a single blow was struck until Louis began to chase Walcott again. (3) Walcott himself acknowledged that Louis is vastly his superior by his deliberate refusal to contribute anything other than clever counter-punching for the fan's money.**

**"Both Louis and Walcott are exceptionally good counter-punchers. This means that throughout the whole 15 rounds Louis was obliged to play into Walcott's hands or take part in a fight in which no real punches would have been landed. Louis has much too great a sense of responsibility to the public to allow that to happen. I don't want to take anything away from the great showing Walcott made. He gave Louis a good workout and the fans a great evening but—champion of the world while Joe Louis is alive?—Nuts.**

**"W. M., Pittsburgh."**

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

**YOU ARE** quite right about Louis sacrificing his great counter-punching forte for the sake of making it a fight. Now I've heard some say this was Louis' biggest mistake. That he should have planted himself in the middle of the ring, said I'm champ, Jersey Joe, if you'd like the job come and take it away from me. Not that I agree with that school of thought any more than I'd condemn Walcott for fighting a counter-punch type of battle. It's the ONLY way to fight Joe Louis—and Walcott's boner was in not countering enough and waging a defensive offensive, so to speak, instead of strictly a defensive after the fourth round. 12-12-47. Fri.

Oh well, everybody gets another chance in June. Time to talk it up then. This discussion can't go on forever, y'know.

# PROTEST IS ISSUED ON FIGHT REFEREE

Times

### Webster, Manager of Walcott, Advises Against Donovan for Louis Title Bout

New York, N.Y.

By JAMES P. DAWSON

The time-honored referee protest cropped up yesterday in connection with the world heavyweight title bout between Champion Joe Louis and the Camden, N. J., challenger, Jersey Joe Walcott, to be waged tomorrow night in Madison Square Garden. But this time the demurrer was entered by the challenger for a change.

Joe Webster, manager of Walcott, issued a statement that he planned to discuss with Chairman Eddie Eagan of the State Athletic Commission the advisability of using a referee other than Arthur Donovan when Louis goes to the post for the twenty-fourth defense of the title he has now held for more than ten years.

"It is not that I question Donovan's honesty or ability," said Webster. "Rather, it is because I feel, and I suspect most of the boxing fans share the feeling, that Donovan has worked in too many of Louis' bouts and a change would be welcome." Times

### Commission Selects Referee

Chairman Eagan dismissed the matter with the comment "the State Athletic Commission will select the referee, as always, in accordance with its responsibility to serve boxing's best interests."

Donovan could not be reached for comment. It is of record, however, that he has officiated in twelve of the bouts in which Louis defended his title. Eddie Joseph worked three and Billie Cavanagh and Frank Fullam one each, among local referees. wed.

In bouts in Chicago, Los Angeles, Detroit, Boston and Philadelphia the respective referees were Dave Miller, George Blake, Sam Hennessy (twice), Johnny Martin and Irving Kutcher. 12-4-47

Bearing in mind it has been commission custom to select referees according to their ability and the importance of the bout, some boxing followers yesterday made light of Webster's proposal. Several pointed out that the fact that Donovan has worked so many Louis bouts should constitute a recommendation.

### Champion Spars 4 Rounds

Before a group which included Olle Tandberg, Swedish heavyweight, Louis yesterday completed hard training for his twenty-fourth title defense, and ended the long, tedious grind, in good condition. Four rounds of sparring featured the champion's drill.

In order, the Brown Bomber boxed a round with Jimmy Bell, two with Shamus O'Brien and one with Bob Garner. This workout boosted to ninety-six the number of rounds Louis has sparred preparing for the Walcott match, emphasizing the point that the titleholder is taking nothing for granted, despite the fact Walcott is expected to enter the ring a 10-to-1 shot.

Promoter Sol Strauss of the Twentieth Century S. C., who was among those watching the workout, announced Louis will remain at his Pompton Lakes (N. J.) quarters until tomorrow morning, when he will motor to the weighing ceremony in the Garden at noon.

Strauss reiterated his forecast the fight will shatter all Garden gate records. The ticket manifest provides a maximum of $261,000. It is expected the receipts will gross about $230,000.

Betting on the outcome went to 1 to 9 on Louis yesterday. On Louis to win by a knockout the betting was 1 to 6. The quotation on Louis winning in eight rounds was said to be 1 to 4. One book quoted Walcott to win by a knockout at 20 to 1.

### Walcott Breaks Camp Today

Walcott confined his activities to a five-mile road workout in the morning and a private session at calisthenics and shadow boxing in the afternoon, a drill to which not even his sparring partners were admitted. The challenger will break camp today, remaining in seclusion at a local hotel until summoned to the weighing.

## That Decision

Jersey Joe Walcott thinks he ought to be heavyweight champion of the world. A lot of people agree with him. Yet the New York Athletic Commission thinks otherwise, and the only way that one Joe is likely to assume the other's title is by whipping him so definitely in the Yankee Stadium next Summer that no one will have any doubt at all about the result. *News*

The commission has declined to consider a protest from Walcott about the decision which gave last Friday night's contest to Joe Louis on rounds. It is easy to see that Walcott and his manager would want to protest the decision if machinery should exist for such action. But it is also completely consistent with good judgment for the commission to deny the appeal when it is based only on a matter of opinion. If a protestant could bring evidence that one or more of the judges was dishonest or woefully incapable of making a sensible decision, then there might be reason for reversing a finding. But the commission approves the judges and it must accept their conclusions without prejudice. *12-10-47*

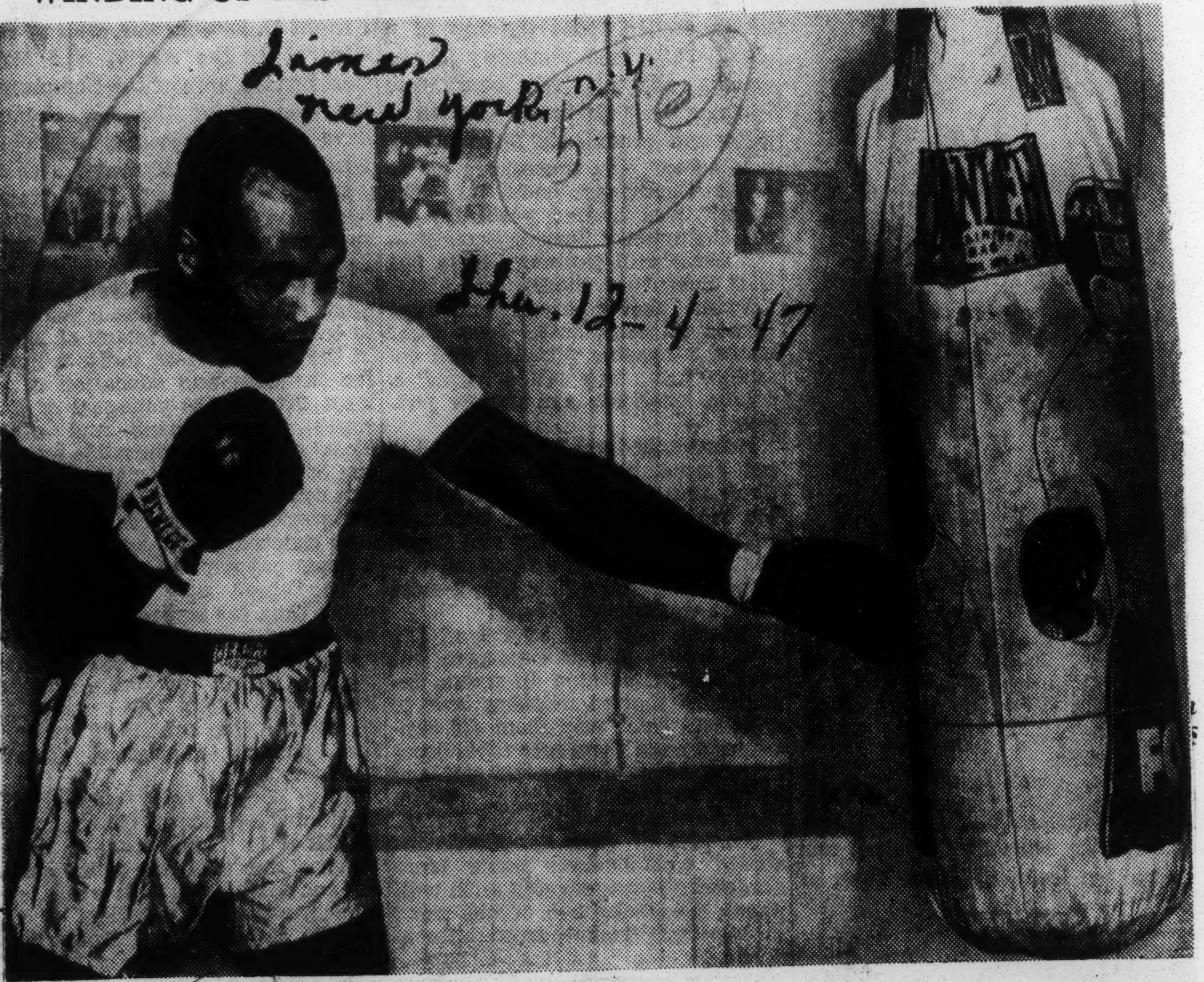
The millions of people who listened to the fight on the radio came away with divided opinions. If a majority of them—as seems possible—thought that Walcott fought a better fight than two of the judges thought he did, that may have been due in part to the broadcast description, the narrator. On the broadcaster's skill in seeing clearly and speaking glibly largely depends the opinion of the listener. Such sports narrators can easily make mistakes. Theirs is an extremely difficult job. *Birmingham, Ala*

The many listeners who were inclined to think that Walcott fought a better fight than Louis heard of the two knockdowns. They heard the crowd roar. They did not see Walcott backstepping out of Louis' way constantly. They may not have realized how aggressive Louis was. Thus the decision came as a shock to many of them. *Wed*

It is apparently true, from all accounts, that this was Louis' poorest fight since he became champion. The reason may be that he is growing too old to be a top-notch athlete. His legs are slowing down. His eyesight is not so keen. He may not have the same "feel" of the ring and his opponent in it that he used to. Most of all, he doesn't have the same sledge-hammer power in his arms that knocked out so many good fighters in so few rounds of actual combat. At least those are the conclusions to which the average fight fan must come. Maybe in the rematch Louis will whale the stuffing out of Walcott as he did out of Schmeling when they met the second time. At any rate, the second fight should tell the story. *Wed.*

Louis showed to good advantage after the fight was over. He has a certain inarticulate incisiveness about him that shows his blunt honesty. When asked if Walcott was a second-rate fighter, Joe grunted laconically, "No; I am." Such open confession and scorn of alibis is good for the soul. Whether it's good enough to spur Louis back into fighting shape as of old, only time will tell.

## WINDING UP HIS TRAINING FOR HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE BOUT



*Times New York N.Y. Thu. 12-4-47*

Jersey Joe Walcott working out yesterday at Grenloch, N. J., for his meeting with Joe Louis at the Garden tomorrow night.

Associated Press Wirephoto

## Louis Says He'll Quit After Bout

*Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.*

New York, Dec. 11 (AP)—Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis told a reporter for the Bronx Home News today that "win, lose or draw" he would retire from the ring after his return bout with Jersey Joe Walcott next summer at Yankee Stadium.

Louis, who has not left his apartment in upper Manhattan since last Friday night's fight with Walcott, expressed complete confidence that he would win by a knockout the next time he faces the Camden, N. J., veteran.

"I'll be in better shape the next time," Louis declared, adding that he was "very, very weak" in last week's bout.

He said he should have weighed 214 pounds for Walcott instead of 211, and blamed his poor condition on the fact that he "dried out" strenuously the day before the scrap. He admitted that Mannie Seamon, his trainer, had not approved of the drying out. *Fri. 12-12-47*

### NOT IN SHAPE

Joe said he realized early in the fight that he was not in shape when he was unable to work up a sweat. Further proof came, he said, when a cut under his left eye did not bleed.

The Home News reporter said that Louis had seen only close friends and his three-year-old daughter since the fight. He said the champion's left eye, swollen nearly shut after the bout, was back to normal.

Commenting on conjecture in the press that he was washed up, Louis said:

"Nobody knows whether I'm through except myself. I know how I feel and I know I'm not finished."

## 'CHES' WASHINGTON . . . A Memo to Joe L.

*Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.*

With the two Joes—Louis and Walcott—settling down to serious training for their slugfest in New York's Madison Square Garden on Dec. 5, it might be well for the champ to remember that Jersey Joe is no slouch as a slugger—especially on that part of the anatomy known as kidney territory.

**We spotted the Jersey Jolter carefully out in Los Angeles last summer while he was banging away on Joey Maxim's reddened aft . . . and if you don't believe Walcott can "hurt your feelings" on the mid-starboard or portside sectors, just ask Maxim.**

Despite the boos of the crowd, Jersey Joe just kept pounding away like a two-ton trip hammer working overtime. And as the rounds wore on, Maxie started to wilt like a lily in a tornado. This mauling obviously paved the way to Walcott's victory. *Sat.*

**That was the night in Jnue when Louis did an exhibition chore to help Frankie Sinatra out on his first boxing promotion.**

The Walcott-Maxim fight wasn't a crowd-thriller, but everyone went home saying that Jersey Joe was at least capable of stirring up a terrific kidney "stew." *Sat. 11-15-47*

**The Louis-Walcott battle should be much better because it will be a champion, straight-punching dreadnaught, against a slugging "side-wheeler."**

The champ has never played any opponent cheap—and I don't think he will this time. He's planning to be in the pink for the battle.

**Walcott is drilling seriously, too . . . knowing that he is shooting for the biggest stake in his whole career.**

Incidentally, reports from the recent signing-in ceremonies say that Walcott's pilots refused to agree to give the Twentieth Century Sporting Club exclusive rights for his booking if he wins the title—thus being the first fighter to turn down such an arrangement since the Mike Jacobs-controlled fistic firm came into power

## JACK TARVER

*Atlanta, Ga.*

### Get There Early, It Won't Last Long

*Daily World*

*Thu. 11-13-47*

Joe Louis has signed to defend his title next month in Madison Square Garden.

*The challenger's name is Jersey Joe Walcott and before the evening is over, he'll wish he'd stayed there.*

The bout is advertised for fifteen rounds or less. It'll probably be the latter. *11-13-47*

*Louis disposes of challengers faster than they can bat an eye. The gong for the opening round is a signal at the Garden to put in a call for the next-of-kin.*

That's why the networks aren't anxious to broadcast the coming bout. They know it'll be over before they're halfway through the initial commercial.

*Thoughtfully, the match has been set for December 5. Thus there's a good chance that Walcott will be back with his family by Christmas.*

## Joe Louis Goes Five Rounds In Training

*Montgomery, Ala.*

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., Nov. 16.—(AP)—Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis boxed five rounds today before 700 fans, the largest crowd ever to watch him drill in the 10 years that he has been training here. *Mon. 11-17-47*

Louis, who meets Challenger Jersey Joe Walcott for the title in Madison Square Garden, Dec. 5, went two rounds with Jimmie Bell and Bob Garner and one with George Fitch. Bell gave him the toughest workout and the fans cheered the sparmate when he landed a couple of stiff jabs. Bell paid for that when Louis finished strong.

Sol Strauss, acting director of the 20th Century Sporting Club which is promoting the fight, and Welterweight Champion Sugar Ray Robinson watched the champion in action.

## WALCOTT IS HITTING HARD

*Times*

### Jersey Joe Batters Sparring

## Partners in Training

*New York, N. Y.*

GRENLOCH, N. J., Nov. 18 (AP)—Jersey Joe Walcott hit hard today in his training for the Dec. 5 title fight with Joe Louis.

He scored three knockdowns, two against his ace sparemate, Austin Johnson, and the other against Eddie Wilson. *Wed. 11-19-47*

A short straight right on the chin floored Johnson in the first round and another smashing right sent him to the floor in the third. It was in the first of two heats that Walcott scored with a right to the jaw which sent Wilson through the ropes.

After the workout, Walcott tipped the beam at 196¼. He expects to scale 192 for the fight.

*Wed. 11-19-47*

POMPTON, N. J., Nov. 18 (AP)—With his sparring partners battered and bruised, World's Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis today sent out an S.O.S. to New York and Chicago for help. Joe has been extra rough with his sparring mates. As a result, Jimmy Bell is banged up quite a bit and Bob Garner and George Fitch are nursing bruises.

## Both Joes put up $5000 fight bond

*Tribune, Los Angeles, Calif.*

*Sat. 11-8-47*

NEW YORK — Heavyweight champion Joe Louis and challenger Jersey Joe Walcott got started with their business last Monday when both showed up at the New York State Athletic Commission's office, signed contracts, and posted $5000 apiece in good faith for their respective appearances at Madison Square Gardens Dec. 5 for a 15-round title bout.

**Just before the ceremony, which is old stuff to him, Louis & co. met uptown with Walcott & co. to get all the business details down pat. Most important detail straightened out was a guarantee of a return match in June providing Walcott should lift the crown.**

Other little matters taken care of were: Louis aranged to get 45 percent of the net gate; Walcott gets the usual small end, 15 percent. *Sat. 11-8-47*

Walcott and manager Joe Webster stood on one thing: neither could be persuaded to sign over their services exclusively to 20th Century Sporting club, promoters of the title bout, for five years, or any other number, much to the regret of 20th Century which has regularly practiced latched on to services—and easily—by trading off a title match with Louis.

## LOUIS TO SET MARK FOR TITLE DEFENSE

*Times*

### Bout With Walcott Will Be 24th Time He Has Risked Heavyweight Honors

*New York, N. Y.*

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., Nov. 13 (AP)—Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis boxed six rounds at his training camp here today and then reminded sports writers that he will set something of a record when he meets Jersey Joe Walcott in a fifteen-round title bout in Madison Square Garden on Dec. 5 *Fri.*

"I will have defended my title twenty-four times," said Joe, "which is more times than all the heavyweight titleholders combined have defended the championship."

Louis boxed two rounds each with Jimmy Bell, Bob Garnar and George Fitch. He now has sparred twenty-seven rounds and covered 220 miles in roadwork in preparation for the fight. *11-14-47*

## Joe Louis

*The News 11-14-47*

BY HUGH FULLERTON, JR.

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., Nov. 14—(AP)—Joe Louis was sitting on the rubbing table in a crowded little room watching Trainer Manny Seamon bandage his hands with solemn care of a mother diapering her first baby. . . . Joe was trying to carry on a conversation with reporters and was making tough work of it. The only subject that had come up was Joe's "lucky" bathrobe and the champ admitted it was "beginning to give out, too." . . . The door opened and Louis let out a gleeful shout, "Ray. How'd you do this morning." . . . Welterweight Champion Ray Robinson, wearing a red stocking cap, a toothy smile, a red sweater and dark slacks bounced in, and shouted: "I did myself out of a set of golf clubs."

*Birmingham Ala.*

ROYAL ROBE

*Fri. 11-14-47*

Joe hunched the tattered bathrobe more closely about his shoulders and someone asked: "How long have you had it, Joe?" "Since 1935," Louis replied, "Mr. Roxborough bought it for me." . . . "That's a long time," commented the reporter. "Doesn't this training begin to get boresome?" *Fri. 11-14-47* "Not boresome, tiresome. I don't like to get out and do six miles of roadwork any more. The boxing gets tiresome, too, and those are the things I used to like the most." . . . Another scribe broke in, "Did you read about Carnera and Galento wrestling each other?" . . . Louis grinned again. "I predicted that would be a draw. I want to challenge both of them." . . He looked as if he might get away with it, too—either at wrestling or boxing.

## LOUIS GOES 4 ROUNDS IN SPIRITED WORKOUT

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., Nov. 5 (AP)—Joe Louis, heavyweight champion, today opened serious training for his Dec. 5 Madison Square Garden title bout with Jersey Joe Walcott, and boxed savagely through four spirited rounds with two sparring mates.

It was the first time Louis had done any serious boxing since his one-round knockout of Tami Mauriello fourteen months ago. Louis weighed 216 pounds for the workout. He said he planned to enter the ring at 208 or 209.

The champion went two three-minute rounds with Jimmy Bell of Washington, D. C., and two three-minute rounds against regular sparring partner George Fitch. He had both boys in trouble with a vicious attack.

George Nicholson, former sparmate of Louis who now helps in the training of the champion, said "Joe looked like the Louis of old. He looked much better than in his first workout for the Mauriello fight. He could step in there tomorrow."

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

GRENLOCH, N. J., Nov. 5—Joe Walcott punctuated his training activities by knocking out one of his sparring partners in the first round.

Walcott dropped Eddie Wilson, 200-pound Philadelphian, with a left hook and then, after waiting until Wilson had been revived, continued a bit more easily for three more rounds.

Other sparring partners are due to arrive here tomorrow. Walcott weighed 200 pounds, which is about eight pounds over the weight he expects to carry into the ring against the champion.

## Champion Preps For Walcott

*Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.*

By HASKELL COLE

POMPTON LAKES, N. J.—"The champ is in better shape mentally and physically for this fight than he was for the second Conn fight," Co-manager John Roxborough told The Courier Saturday afternoon as Joe finished his first week of training at Pompton Lake in preparation for his Dec. 5 joust with Jersey Joe Walcott in Madison Square Garden.

Trainer Mannie Seamon concurs with Roxborough in the opinion that the heavyweight title holder is rarin' to go. All of which bears Walcott no good tidings.

Already trained down sleekly, due to several weeks of conditioning at West Baden, Ind., the titleholder will go through fifteen training sessions at the utmost, before he encounters the challenger from Camden, N. J., early in December. Saturday's training session opened with the champ going through two fast rounds of shadow boxing after which Jimmy Bell entered the ring for two rounds of brisk action. Joe contented himself with finding the range on Bell's schnozzle with his booming left hand jabs. The pace quickened perceptibly when newcomer Bob Garner entered the squared circle for his two heats with the king.

Roxborough explained that Garner was added to the Louis camp after he had been scouted by Roxie and Seamon in fights near the West Baden camp. Hailing from Louisville, Ky., Garner closely resembles Walcott in style. A mite taller than Jersey Joe, Garner weaves and shuffles around the ring like the Camden clouter. It

# Champion Joe To Box Four Days A Week

By HARRY MENDEL

POMPTON LAKES, N. J.—Out here in the Ramapo Mountains, Joe Louis, world heavyweight champion, is training hard and conscientiously, as he always does, for his title defense against Jersey Joe Walcott in Madison Square Garden on Friday, Dec. 5.

Louis is a shining example for any up and coming boxer. He has been champion for ten years and yet he never lets up for a minute, even today, in the thoroughness with which he trains. Regularity of living is his watchword.

**HE IS UP** every morning at six o'clock for roadwork, has breakfast at 10, boxes four days a week at 3 p.m., has dinner at 5, and is in bed at 8:30 every night. This form of training he still adheres to religiously despite the long period he has been champion.

His schedule of boxing for the first week at camp called for boxing on Wednesday and Thursday, then again on Saturday and Sunday. Then he reverts to the old Jack Blackburn formula of boxing on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays. He has been following that four-day-a-week boxing routine for 10 years.

Joe's outstanding sparring partner for the Walcott scrap is Bob Garner, of Louisville, Ky., who has a style much the same as the Camden, N. J., challenger's. He also has George Fitch, New Haven; Jimmy Bell, Washington, and Walter Hafer, Washington, on the staff.

* * *

**LOUIS WEIGHED** 216 pounds when he started to work at Pompton for his 24th title defense. He expects to weigh between 208 and 210 for the fight. For his last defense, against Tami Mauriello last September, he scaled 211¼.

Mannie Seamon, Joe's faithful trainer, is again in charge of his work here, while Freddie Wilson is Joe's companion when he does his six miles of road work every morning. George Nicholson, one of the Louis' former sparring partners, is now in charge of the sparmates and serves as assistant to Seamon. Bill Bottoms, of Chicago, who has been chef at the Joe Louis camps ever since the Brown Bomber won the title, continues to take care of the kitchen.

**was this close ring resemblance to Walcott that induced Roxborough to add him to the sparring mate aggregation. The Southerner mixed willingly with the champ for two cantos and in the second went all out with Louis at close quarters, belting the champ several lusty clouts on the head which he paid for dearly a few seconds later when a Louis chop to the mouth brought the claret out freely after which Garner back tracked. George Fitch, long time veteran of Louis' training camps, was the next opponent who slugged two rounds with Joe. Louis finished his day's stint with two rounds on the fast bag and one on the heavy everlast.**

**Roxborough was very much impressed with his charge's showing, pointing out that the champion wasn't breathing heavily at the end of the rather long workout. "That's how you can tell a man is in shape," he explained. "If his wind is good and his legs hold up a fighter is working his way into condition. Look at Joe, there, he is breathing easily and looks trim indeed."**

**The wily manager pointed out that Louis has trained very seriously in Indiana and therefore is in great shape already. Joe fought several exhibition bouts all over the Hoosier State. Going to bat against Tarner in eight four-round sessions. The latter is helping the champ to rapidly accustom himself to Walcott's shuffling style. Roxie revealed that the Louis entourage had seen Walcott in his Los Angeles bout with Joey Maxim and had learned considerably about the challenger that will come in good stead when the two Joes meet next month.**

# Louis Looks Sharp

POMPTON LAKES, N. J., Nov. 5 (UP). — Displaying old time savagery, Joe Louis began boxing preparations today for his title defense against Jersey Joe Walcott on Dec. 5.

As Louis went through his first serious sparring in 14 months, he stunned both of his spar mates with vicious attacks to body and head. His savage attack was reminiscent of the Bomber of a decade ago.

Although Louis did not floor either of his opponents, he had both Jimmy Bell and George Fitch helpless in the second round of their respective workouts with the champion.

Louis knocked the mouthpiece from Bell's mouth and battered the 188-pounder from Washington, D.C., all over the ring. In Joe's second round with Fitch of New Haven, Conn., he jack-knifed Georgie with a smashing body attack and then pummelled his helpless sparmate around the ring until he was bleeding from the lips.

A large group of boxing writers sat in on Joe's four rounds of sparring and agreed with trainer Mannie Seamon that the champion was much sharper today than when he began his spring sessions in May, 1946 for the second Billy Conn bout.

Louis said he expects to weigh 211 pounds, or more, against Walcott. The challenger said he would be at 192 pounds.

Promoter Sol Straus repeated his forecast of a record gate for the Garden. He added a near-capacity crowd is indicated on the basis of the advance sale, notwithstanding the fact that Louis is held at 1 to 8 to win, and in some books at 1 to 9. As high as 4 to 1 is being offered the fight will not last eight rounds, but little betting is reported.

Tickets in the mezzanine and side balcony sections are reported all sold. The prices of remaining tickets are $30, $20, $8 and $3.

# Joe Knows It Pays to Be in Shape

POMPTON LAKES.—Joe Louis was sitting around the "pot stove" at his training camp here talking about sports in general when Harry Davenport, mayor of Pompton Lakes, dropped in for a visit.

"Joe," he said, "you've been coming here for a long time and I notice that you seem to train as hard for a fight now as you did the very first time I saw you get into condition."

Joe pushed back his chair and said: "Mayor, every fight I have is important. When I meet Jersey Joe Walcott it will be the twenty-fourth defense of my title. I can't let up in training because if I did I wouldn't be champion.

"I've had some fights where the experts said I would win in a round and would have no trouble with my opponent. There was the the time with the fat little man, Tony Galento. One writer said he wouldn't hit me with a punch and another said I would knock him out the first time I hit him.

"Well, if you remember, Galento staggered me in the first round and floored him out in the third. I knocked him out in the fourth. But if I listened to the experts, I wouldn't have trained so hard for that fight and Galento would have been champion."

Joe took a big bite out of an apple and continued: "I fought Buddy Baer in Washington. He wasn't supposed to have a chance. But he knocked me out of the ring and stood me on my head. I finally knocked him out in the eighth. Suppose I hadn't been in condition for that one.

"You don't have to look so far back to remember the last time it paid off to be in good shape. In my last fight, with Tami Mauriello, everyone picked me to win with no trouble. Well, I won in the first round but Tami's very first punch almost knocked me through the ropes. I recovered fast because I was in fine condition.

"Yes, Mayor," Joe concluded, "it always pays off to be in good shape."

# Louis Admits He's Lost Speed, Therefore Is Wary of Walcott

## But Champion 'Thinks' His Punches Are Still as Hard as in 1937—Rivals Winding Up Preparations for Friday's Contest

The popular suspicion that Joe Louis will have an easy time disposing of Jersey Joe Walcott when he defends his heavyweight title for the twenty-fourth time Friday night in Madison Square Garden is not shared by the world heavyweight champion, at least to the extent of making him careless in training.

The Brown Bomber emphasized yesterday, when resting from the intensive grind he has followed in two months of preparation, he frankly acknowledged loss of some of his boxing skill with the passing years, and admitted a respect for Walcott's punching power.

"I'm not as good as I was ten years ago against Jim Braddock," said Louis. "It would be unreasonable to expect to be as good. I think I hit as hard now as I did then, but there have been changes in other respects. I can feel them. For instance I think I have lost some speed and with it the ability to block punches. I get hit now with punches I used to be able to get away from with ease.

**Wallop in Either Fist**

"I have been asked which is my best punch, a right or a left. I don't really know. I think I've knocked out as many opponents with my left hook as I have with my right cross. At least, I've started them on the way to a knockout often with a left hook. I've seen Walcott fight a few times and I know he's a pretty good boxer who sneaks in his punches pretty well. You have to be on the alert at all times against such fellows and that's just what I intend doing."

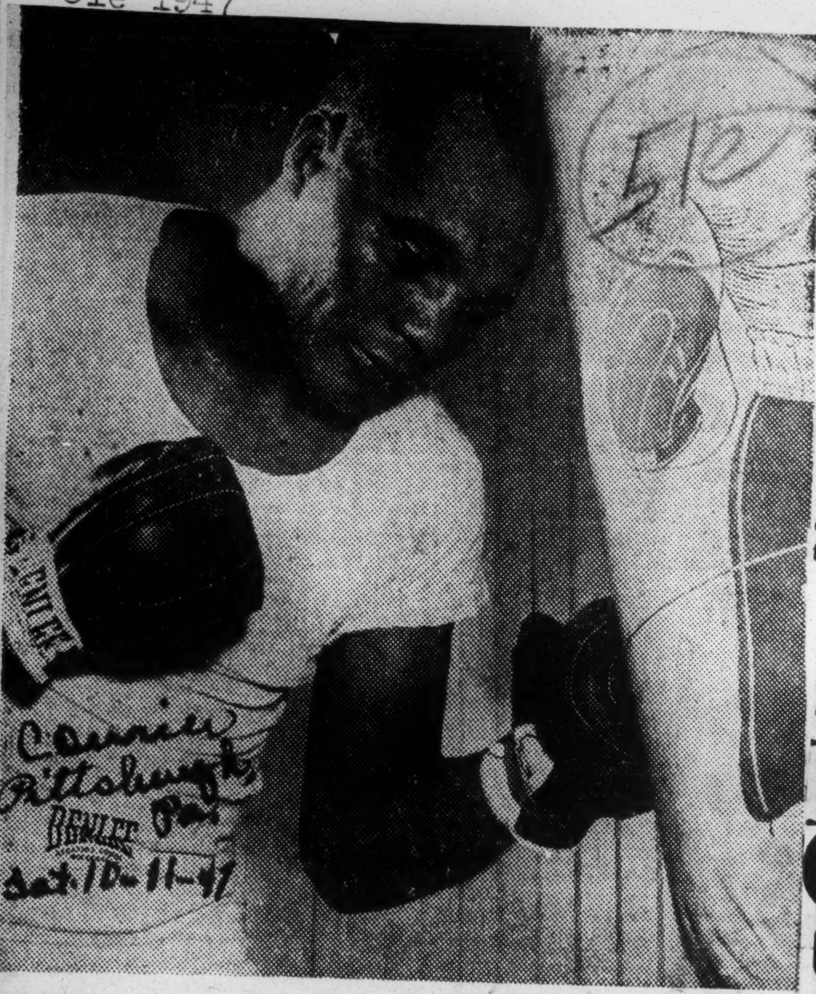
Neither Louis nor Walcott sparred yesterday. Champion and challenger confined activity to road work. Boxing sessions are scheduled for today, however, and at his Pompton Lakes (N. J.) camp tomorrow Louis plans to engage in his last public sparring drill.

Walcott's drill today will be the last at which the public will be admitted. The challenger intends a private workout tomorrow and expects to break camp Thursday. Louis likely will follow custom and remain at Pompton Lakes until the battle date, motoring direct to the weighing-in Friday noon.

**To Have Weight Advantage**

51e 1947

Joe Louis (Walcott)



GETTING READY—Jersey Joe Walcott, heavyweight challenger, punches the bag and dreams of Dec. 5, when he fights Joe Louis for the heavyweight title in New York. Walcott will enter the fray the underdog, but he packs a wallop and may pull boxing's biggest upset.

# Louis Won't Hold Jersey Joe Cheap

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

Joe Louis said yesterday that he expects Jersey Joe Walcott to give him a hard fight Friday night, despite the tendency of many experts to underrate the Camden challenger.

Tues.

He told reporters at his Pompton Lakes camp. **"I listened to the experts before my first fights with Max Schmeling, Billy Conn, and Buddy Baer—and before my fights with Jorge Brescia and Tony Galento. And I got big surprises. I won't be surprised Friday night, because I'm expecting plenty of trouble."** 12-2-47

The champion ran six miles on the road yesterday morning, and spent the day loafing about camp. He will box with three sparmates today and probably tomorrow.

Manager Marshall Miles disclosed today that Joe will weigh about 212 pounds, the heaviest of his career. At the age of 33, he is finding it difficult to keep his poundage down, despite 85 rounds of boxing already under his belt and 300 miles of roadwork.

He will motor into New York Friday forenoon for the weigh-in.

12-2-47

To prevent Jersey Joe Walcott from losing his "edge," trainer Dan Florio decided yesterday to have the challenger box an extra three rounds tomorrow in preparation for Friday night's title fight with Joe Louis.

Tues.

Jersey Joe loafed today at his Grenloch training site after his strenuous sparring sessions over the weekend and it had been planned that he would do no more serious boxing before the big fight.

Manager Joe Webster explained, "Walcott is in the sharpest condition of his career, and we want to keep him that way."

Webster announced that Walcott's corner will be handled by the Florio brothers, Dan and Dick, and assistant-trainer Joey Allen.

Jersey Joe's only activity yesterday was a five-mile jog on the road early in the morning. He plans to break camp and leave for New York Thursday afternoon.

JOE WALCOTT

# Louis-Walcott Gate May Smash Garden Record

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

New York, Nov. 29 (AP)—Joe Louis, a graceful, muscular Negro of 33, will make the 24th defense of his heavyweight championship on Friday night at Madison Square Garden against another Negro named Jersey Joe Walcott, of somewhat undistinguished ring record.

51e 11-30-47

Everything is against the fight. Promoter Mike Jacobs is down in Florida, sick, and his assistants are charging the outrageous fee of $30 for a ringside seat. Walcott generally isn't considered a proper match for Louis, and New York boxing circles still are agitated by doubts arising from the recent Lamotta-Fox debacle.

In fact, there seems to be nothing to recommend the affair except that Joe Louis will be making his first appearance in more than a year, and, from the standpoint of the promoter, that the fans have been rushing to the box office with handfulls of large, coarse bills.

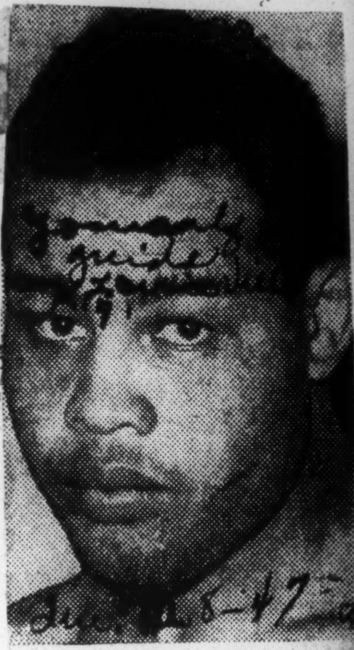
Nobody admits to being much interested in whether Walcott can remain upright for four, six or even 15 rounds against the greatest fighter of the time, yet latest advices indicate that the gate will smash the all-time garden record of $201,000 set 'way back in 1927 by Jack Delaney and Jimmy Maloney.

The explanation seems to be that Louis, after holding the title for better than 10 years, is talking seriously of retiring, and a lot of fans are giving thought that they had better see him quick, if at all. Joe recognizes as well as the next that he has fought himself out of real competition, and the training grind is beginning to pall on him.

| LOUIS | | WALCOTT |
|---|---|---|
| 33 | Age | 33 |
| 208 | Weight | 192 |
| 6′ 2″ | Height | 6′ |
| 76″ | Reach | 74″ |
| 42″ | Chest | 40″ |
| 15″ | Biceps | 16″ |
| 12″ | Forearm | 13″ |
| 8″ | Wrist | 7¼″ |
| 11¾″ | Fist | 12″ |
| 36″ | Waist | 35″ |
| 22″ | Thigh | 21½″ |
| 14″ | Calf | 14″ |
| 10″ | Ankle | 9¾″ |

Friday night's bout originally was to have been a 10-round "exhibition," a tacit admission by the promoters that they did not consider Walcott a genuine challenger for Louis' title. It was changed to a 15 and the ringside price hiked to $30 after the athletic commission pointed out tactfully that a heavyweight champion was defending his crown any time he entered the ring, no matter what they called it. 11-30-47

Louis has worked himself into superb condition at his camp at Pompton Lakes, N. J. So far as the naked eye can discern, he is as good a man as he ever was. His eyes are clear, his face virtually unmarked still, and his legs look hard and muscular. His sparring partners say Joe hits harder than ever, and that the $200 per week and board that they earn is none too much for what they undergo.



JOE LOUIS

Louis expects to weigh in at about 210 for Walcott. That will be only about 13 pounds more than he scaled the night he knocked out Jimmy Braddock for the title in 1936. The added pounds represent maturity, rather than the encroachment of suet at any particular point. His face looks a little bigger, and he might have added an inch or two around the hips.

Walcott is said to be planning to step around Louis at a lively clip and to pile up points with counter-punching, at which he is adept. Conceding that Jersey Joe has been around a good while, himself, and is no novice between the ropes, he scarcely is such a defensive genius as to hope to dodge the champion for 15 rounds.

Louisville, Ky.

Joe in training has been crowding his partners relentlessly. They haven't been able to evade him, and even with the awkward 16-ounce gloves he has given them brutal punishment. Joe was asked if, while watching a bout between Walcott and Joey Maxim out on the coast last summer, he noticed whether Walcott left any openings.

"Sure," he chortled, "I saw plenty of openings. So did Maxim. It wasn't a good fight."

Walcott, who also admits to 33 years, will come in at about 193. His supporters say that two things are for certain—that he isn't afraid of Louis, and that he will not "die" before he reaches the ring, as several of Joe's so-called rivals have done.

To make doubly certain that Jersey Joe doesn't contract the shakes beforehand, his manager took the extraordinary precaution several days ago of banning any further interviews with sports writers. The challenger's pilot feels that a fighter's confidence is not bolstered by being asked how long he thinks he can last with Louis. He's probably right.

# In This Corner...

By Bill Mardo

## Eight to One?

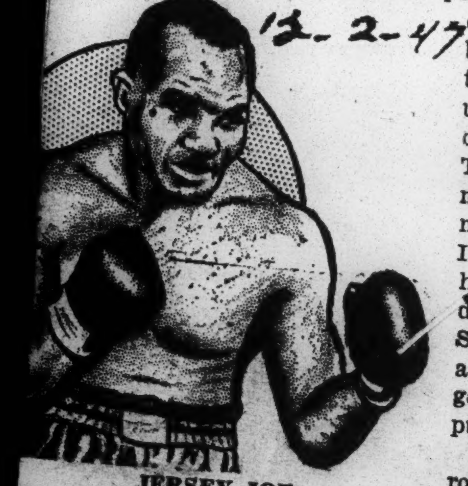
Daily Worker

CLOSE THE KITCHEN, mother, three basketball doubleheaders and Joe Louis' 24th defense dangling on the calendar between tonight and Saturday p.m. Hevvens but here we go Gardening again.

New York, N.Y.

Anybody know why Walcott is 8-1 under Louis? I mean aside from Louis being the greatest heavyweight ever? The champ himself would ridicule the odds, knowing as he does that any decent professional boxer weighing over 190 pounds and standing six feet tall doesn't deserve the cocksure brush-off. Things can happen and that's why sports lore is rich with upsets, surprise turnabouts that didn't "figure" in a million years.

12-2-47



JERSEY JOE

The opinion here is Walcott is a more legitimate challenger than most heavies whom Louis faced. I'll be darned if I can see ridiculing him, as some do, to a greater degree than the Mustos, Paycheks, Simons and Godoys. Jersey Joe's a cute, clever and ringwise old geezer with a deceptive way of punching.

Tues.

If he lasts longer than three rounds I'll be surprised, of course, but 8-1 is something I wouldn't give if NYU hoopsters were playing undermanned Brooklyn College tonight instead of Tulane. . . .

# In This Corner...

51e

Daily Worker

By Bill Mardo

New York, N.Y.

## Something Special

Fri. 12-5-47

AT 10 P.M. TONITE two rather oldish athletes climb over the lower rung of the Garden ropes, go to their corners while the usual pre-bout introductions are done with, the call to mid-ring for the too familiar droning of instructions ("**I want you to break when I say break, after a knockdown the fighter scoring the knockdown will go to a neutral corner, etc., etc.**"), that last tense second when both battlers doff robes and grimly stare at each other from opposite ends of the ring, finally the first bell.

One of the tragedies of being a working pressman is the humdrum monotony the above adopts after it has been viewed for the thousandth time and the sad decline of one's spectator approach to a sport that usually has the paying customer swallowing hard as the action begins. But the highest tribute one can pay to Joe Louis is that not a sports writer living dares take his fascinated focus away from the somber artist after round one commences because there has only been one like him in the annals of ringdom and the day is too soon when the sight of Louis stripping for battle will become a cherished memory.

**It's a privilege to work at a Louis fight and I'm not ashamed to admit that already the old clammy excitement is creeping into my stomach as I write this. He is the King of Sports. As Joe approaches his 34th year he is realistically secure although not cockily so that not a fighter living can beat him, short of accident or a miraculous stroke of luck for the other guy. Within such category can fall cuts around the eyes which usually presage a TKO, having that rich steak suddenly come up on you, or more true to the longshot form sheet, getting pegged by a lucky punch to a nerve-sensitive spot.**

## How Lucky?

Daily Worker

**JERSEY JOE WALCOTT** had best discard the first two chances and hope for the third. Because the older Joe Louis gets the slower his precise coordinating machinery becomes. What he meant when he said the other day, "I'm not as good as I used to be . . . now I get hit with punches I used to see coming." But knowledge of the slight defensive damage Father Time has wreaked upon his perfect machine makes Louis even more dangerous. No fighter ever had as much right as Louis to the deep pride he takes in owning the heavyweight title and also the social sword it becomes in the duel for growing democracy for his people and all the discriminated peoples of the world. Joe Louis wants to take that with him when he unlaces the mittens for the last time. And that's why the heavyweight who could spoil Joe's plans has to be either a very great fighter or a very lucky one.

**Walcott is not a very great fighter. Nothing in the records can prove otherwise. Luck is an unpredictable thing at best and I for one don't wish to indulge in any mystic mumbo-jumbo about it. Walcott would have to be lucky to beat a fighter so superior to him. And the question of "how lucky" even stretches the imagination. For example, he hits hard enough to knock a man down, but not hard enough to keep him there with one punch. It is not generally considered lucky to floor Louis, because a Joe Louis picking himself off the resin is a frightening sight. To sting the champion is to goad him into dropping his last bit of scientific caution and exploding into the most blazingly destructive puncher of all time. Jimmy Braddock, Tony Galento, Buddy Baer and Tami Mauriello all, in their time, bore bloody testimony to this fact. Joe Louis doesn't cut easily, in fact I have never seen him worse off than a bloody nose or puffy mouse under the eye. Therefore, Walcott's chances of cutting Louis into a TKO are almost negligible. Jersey Walcott is not a great boxer and, even if he were, he'd probably still be one notch below the champion, whose boxing genius is something once overlooked but no longer, not after the brilliant jabbing exhibition he pridefully put on against Billy Conn of the second time by way of proving who possessed the better left hand. So, Walcott will find it terribly difficult to outpoint the champion even should he stay 15 rounds.**

## Fancy and Fact

New York, N.Y.

**HOW THEN**, does a man beat Louis? No fighter is quite invincible, not even the super Joe. My answer is: the heavyweight isn't here who owns the combination of talents necessary to dethrone Louis. I have a theory that it would have to be a man who owned the speed and boxing deftness of Billy Conn, plus the punch of the Bomber himself. A mythical performer who could outleg the not-speedy Joe for eight or nine rounds all the while sinking in enough heavy blows to take the snap out of his punches and then coming in to trade. As I've mused countless times, perhaps a 170-pound Ray Robinson might've been the one to test my thesis. But Ray will never weigh 170 pounds and meantime there isn't a man above that weight owning such overall equipment.

Fri. 12-5-47

**What, then, is Walcott doing in the ring with Louis? Well, he'll be trying. And he belongs in there. I've criticized those who ridicule this match on the grounds of Walcott's alleged mediocrity. That's not quite fair. Jersey Joe is probably as good as the best Louis has fought, and lots better than most of the others. He has fought himself out of competition and while the competition grantedly isn't much and some of those fights were colossal bores, notably the ones with Elmer Ray and Joey Maxim, he nonetheless earned his right to the title shot. It has been a long, discouraging road for the 34-year-old father of six and he'll make enough tonight to take care of himself and his for the rest of his life should he choose to retire after the evenings festivities.**

Truth is, most fighters have little recourse open to them but retirement after going the quick, terribly enervating rounds with Louis.

**And I see no reason why this shouldn't end quickly. Be that as it may, the very best of that thing called luck to both battlers and may the better man win. He always has.**

# Louis Puts Crown On Block For 24th Time Friday Night

Montgomery, Ala.

NEW YORK, Nov. 30.—(AP)—Joe Louis, the busiest heavyweight champion of them all, puts his crown on the block for the 24th time Friday night when he meets Jersey Joe Walcott in a 15-rounder in Madison Square Garden.

Mon. 12-1-47

Like Mel Ott of baseball's New York Giants, Louis sets a record every time he steps into the ring. The Bronx Bomber has put his crown up for grabs more times than all the other former heavyweight kings together.

Having picked the opposition virtually clean, this will be Louis' first bout since he stopped Tami Mauriello in one round, Sept. 18, 1946.

And since Louis seems headed for retirement after one more outdoor show this Summer, the fight faithful are rushing to the box office in such numbers that the Garden indoor record gate of $201,613 seems on its way out.

A crowd of around 18,000 is expected to watch the great champion perform against Walcott. The fight is slated for 15 rounds but the heaviest part of the wagering is on how far the Bomber will let Walcott go.

12-1-47

For an 8 to 1 underdog, the Camden, N. J., veteran is showing plenty of signs of life. This is Walcott's biggest money shot and in the stillness of his Grenloch, N. J., training camp, the head of one of boxing's largest families—Walcott has six children—is working and praying for victory.

A triumph for Walcott would be even more of an upset than that recorded by Jimmy Braddock, boxing's original "Cinderella man" back in '35, when he lifted the title from Maxie Baer's brow.

Walcott's hopes rest on a "cute" style with which he plans to puzzle the champion. The Jersey comeback man—he will be 34 in January and is a few months older than Louis—figures to bob and weave around the champion. He's planning to counter with lefts to the body and overhand rights to the head.

12-1-47

Louis, however, is planning to get things over with quick. The Bomber says "you can't fool around with anyone. Sometimes even a second-rater lands and then you're in trouble."

Louis is preparing for trouble although few observers believe he will be seriously threatened. The champ has trained himself finely for the bout and his workouts show he has his oldtime power.

The champ will carry a weight advantage of around 18 pounds—210 to 192—and a reach and height advantage of two inches.

51e 1947

Joe Louis (Walcott)

# Somebody'll Get K. O.'d, Louis Says

Courier Journal

New York, Dec. 2 (AP)—The Twentieth Century Sporting Club, which may not be entirely unbiased, is pointing out that Joe Louis has demolished a number of heavyweights in the past 10 years who weren't any better, on the record, than Jersey Joe Walcott, whom he is expected to flatten on

undertaken it, and fewer still have conversed with the challenger in person.

Since nearly a week ago Jersey Joe has been held incommunicado by his manager, and even his occasional statements that "I feel good" have come through a third party. It cannot be denied that certain of Louis's other opponents talked too much and got themselves hurt—Max Schmeling for one.

Louisville, Ky.

Louis will complete a month of hard training tomorrow at Pompton Lakes, N. J. The champion, though preparing to fight for the first time in more than 14 months, has worked himself into such obviously perfect shape that the odds against Walcott have lengthened steadily. They were 9-1 today, and the bokmakers were offering 6-5 that Jersey Joe does not show up for the fourth round.

Wed.

Before today's workout Louis told reporters that he expected to weigh 213 pounds for Walcott, his heaviest yet. His previous high was 211½ for Tami Mauriello, whom he stopped in one round on September 18, 1946.

"I don't think it's too heavy," he said. "I think I'll be stronger than I ever was before.'

The champion said he had signed a contract calling for him to make 28 appearances at a fair in England next spring. He will box two rounds daily against British opponents. He was asked if the contract would hold good if he should lose to Walcott.

"No," he said. "I'll have to be champion if I go. But I signed the contract, didn't I? I will win it."

Friday night in the Garden.

In fact, the promoters of the $30 affair are inclined to feel that Jersey Joe, a cropped-haired Negro of long experience in the ring, stands a rung above such pre-war Louis victims as Jack Roper, Al McCoy, Johnny Paycheck, Tony Musto, Red Burman, John Henry Lewis ,and possibly Lou Nova and Buddy Baer.

"At least, I'll guarantee he won't collapse while he's climbin' into the ring like some of those beauties did," declared a spokesman for the ill and absent Mike Jacobs. "Walcott thinks he's going to win the title, and the only one who can convince him otherwise is oJe Louis. I'm not even sure that Joe can. Walcott could surprise everybody."

**FLOORED** 12-3-47

One of the factors which is supposed to have stimulated Walcott with extra confidence is the hallucination that he knocked Louis down in a sparring session while the champion was training for his second scrap with Max Schmeling. Walcott says Louis's handlers shipped him out of camp pronto after the incident. Louis says it just didn't happen.

"He might have been one of my sparrin' partners, but if he was he didn't knock me down," the champ says with a trace of annoyance. "Far as I know I never laid eyes on him until I saw him box Joe Maxim out on the Coast last summer. Anyway, he'll have plenty of chance to knock me down again Friday night. Somebody's gonna get knocked out."

**HEAVIEST FOR JOE**

Walcott, who wound up his boxing preparations today at Grenoch Lake, N. J., has stayed about as far away from Louis as possible while still remaining within commuting distance of the battle site. A trip to his camp has been such an arduous journey that few boxing writers have

# BOMBER WILL SEEK A QUICK KNOCKOUT

## Louis at Peak but Feels He Cannot Tarry With Walcott in Battle at Garden

New York Times

## CHALLENGER IS CLEVER

New York, N.Y.

### Would Ruin Champion's 24th Title Defense With Waiting Game Friday Night

Sunday

By JAMES P. DAWSON

The longest vacation Joe Louis has enjoyed from boxing, save for the years he served in the Army, comes to an end Friday night in Madison Square Garden.

The world heavyweight champion will defend his title against Jersey Joe Walcott in a bout scheduled for fifteen rounds. It will be the first ring engagement for Louis since the night of Sept. 18, 1946, when he knocked out Tami Mauriello in a round. It will be Louis' twenty-fourth title defense, a record unparalleled in boxing history. 11-30-47

It will be also the sixtieth professional battle in the life of the grim-visaged offspring of an Alabama sharecropper since the night in 1934 when he launched the career that led to the heavyweight title in 1937 and the amazing succession of triumphs which have followed.

Dr. Vincent J. Nardiello, on a visit to Walcott's camp for the State Athletic Commission yesterday, found Jersey Joe in excellent shape. Dr. Nardiello will examine Louis today. 11-30-47

**Ringside Seats Bring $30**

This return of the heavyweight title to indoor competition for the first time since Louis disposed of Abe Simon in six rounds on March 27, 1942, before the titleholder went off to the war, promises to attract a near-capacity crowd. Sol Strauss, who is guiding the affairs of the Twentieth Century S. C. during the convalescence of Promoter Mike Jacobs, said yesterday that the Garden record for receipts from a boxing bout will be shattered by the crowd which will come from all corners of the country for the spectacle.

The record is $201,613, made by Jack Delaney and Jim Maloney more than twenty years ago. Prices for the approaching title struggle have been pegged at $30 for ringside, down to $3 for general admission. The intermediate prices are $20, $12, $8 and $5.

Demands for ringside seats almost have exhausted the available supply. Most of the choice seats at lower prices are gone. Announcement has been made, however, that there remain some choice locations at all prices.

Another indication of the tremendous interest in the bout is the herculean task facing Harry Markson, Twentieth Century's publicity chief. He has been swamped with requests for press reservations. From all parts of the country these applications have come. Some have come from as far away as England, Australia, South America, Mexico, New Zealand, France, Canada, Sweden and Italy.

**Supply and Demand**

Since Fire Department regulations and Building Department requirements have decreased the available ringside space for legitimate press accommodations, Markson was wrestling yesterday with the problem of trying to adjust his capacity to the demand, or vice versa.

Louis is not facing the most dangerous challenger ever developed for a title chance when he enters the ring against Walcott. No pertense to this claim has been made. Consequently the champion will enter the ring a prohibitive 1-to-8 favorite to win. Indeed, most of what little betting the battle has attracted hinges on how long Walcott will survive the titleholder's paralyzing blows.

This condition is no fault of Louis', albeit it is of the champion's making. The Brown Bomber simply has waded through whatever opposition presented itself since he lifted the title from the corrugated brow of James J. Braddock back in 1937, until he finds himself short of contending material.

Because of this situation the match does not compare, from the standpoint of competitive promise, with some of the other great battles of which Louis has been the hero. The fact remains, however, that Louis will be in the ring with his title at stake, there will be a perfectly healthy, ambitious, well-trained, determined fighter in the opposite corner, and, in boxing, as in other things, anything can happen.

**Louis Champion 10 Years**

There is the further consideration that Louis, after thirteen years of ring warfare, and more than ten years as champion, is not the Louis who ripped past Braddock in Chicago back in 1937 and since has hammered all opposition into submission.

Walcott is not to be considered a yearling, either. His birth-date is a moot point. But Nat Fleischer's record book has Jersey Joe active as long ago as 1936, and includes a hiatus from 1941 to 1943 when Jersey Joe was inactive.

Walcott earned the bout on a two-year comeback campaign that held victories over Joe Baksi, Jimmy Bivins, Lee Oma, Curtis Shappard, Lee Q. Murray, Elmer Ray, Tommy Gomez and Joey Maxim, among others.

For more than a month, Louis and Walcott have been preparing for the title battle. The champion is satisfied with his condition, and, something that is altogether unlike him, Louis has come out and said he will press Walcott from the tap of the opening gong.

# Joe Walcott Given Little Or No Chance

Montgomery
Montgomery Ala

## Champ A Trifle Slower But Said To Hit Even Harder

Advertiser

By GAYLE TABOT

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—(AP)—Joe Louis will fight in Madison Square Garden tomorrow night, and because the great heavyweight champion never has given other than an honest, thrilling exhibition of the manly art he is virtually certain to draw the biggest gate in the history of the famous arena. Fri. 12-5-47

Receipts today indicated that more than 18,000 will pay a total of close to $225,000 to watch Louis make the 24th defense of his title against Jersey Joe Walcott, an undistinguished Negro veteran who is not expected by the betting fraternity to last more than four of the scheduled 15 rounds. 12-5-47

It is a remarkable tribute to the brown bomber's drawing power that the big spenders are showering down $30 for ringside chairs at an affair which originally was booked merely as an exhibition because a worthy challenger was not available. The previous Garden record of $201,613 was set more than 20 years ago by Jack Delaney and Jim Maloney.

Walcott, who has trained long and earnestly for his big chance, was scheduled to motor in from his camp early tonight and rest at a hotel near the Garden. Louis planned to sleep overnight at his Pompton Lakes, N. J., camp and to reach the Garden just in time for the official weigh-in at noon tomorrow. It was expected that Louis would scale a hefty 212 to Walcott's 194, giving the champ a pull of 18 pounds.

Even with the bookmakers offering 10 to 1 against Walcott's chances of winning the title, there was understood to be almost no action along those lines. There were reports of brisk business, however, on the question on whether Jersey Joe would last more than four rounds. The bookies were offering 5-to-6 on this, and take your choice. In other words, it was even money in man-to-man wagering that Walcott would not put up his dukes for the fifth round.

The record shows that Louis has knocked out his last 14 opponents, and that, on an average, they have lasted almost exactly four and one-half rounds. Since he became champion, however, Joe has chilled five rivals in the first chapter, and two others in the second. The only other Negro to challenge him, John Henry Lewis, lasted less than a round back in 1939. Tami Mauriello, Joe's most recent victim, also got leather poisoning in the first. That was over 14 months ago.

Two small points of dispute about tomorrow night's brawl have been settled with ease and dispatch by Chairman Eddie Eagan of the boxing commission. First, replying to a request by Walcott's manager that some referee other than Arthur Donovan be used, Eagan said that the commission would, as usual, choose a third man without any outside help.

Then there was an argument over the gloves to be used. Louis, it seems, has obligated himself for a financial consideration to knock all his victims cold with a certain brand of mitts. The 20th Century Sporting Club gives all its business to a rival brand. Eagan, after deep reflection, ruled that either fighter could use any sort of gloves he wished, just so they conformed to specifications and were not loaded.

| Louis | | Walcott |
|---|---|---|
| 33 | Age | 33 |
| 212 | Weight | 194 |
| 6:02 | Height | 6.00 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 76 in. | Reach | 74 in. |
| 42 in. | Chest (normal) | 40 in. |
| 45 in. | Chest (expanded) | 43 in. |
| 17 in. | Neck | 17 in. |
| 15 in. | Biceps | 16 in. |
| 12 in. | Forearm | 13 in. |
| 8 in. | Wrist | 7 1-2 in. |
| 11 3-4 in. | Fist | 12 in. |
| 36 in. | Waist | 35 in. |
| 22 in. | Thigh | 21 1-2 in. |
| 14 in. | Calf | 14 in. |
| 10 in. | Ankle | 9 3-4 in. |

# Walcott Battles Joe Louis Friday

Birmingham News

BY GAYLE TALBOT

NEW YORK, Nov. 29—(AP)—Joe Louis, a graceful, muscular Negro of 33, will make the 24th defense of his heavyweight championship on Friday night at Madison Square Garden against another Negro named Jersey Joe Walcott, of somewhat undistinguished ring record.

Everything is against the fight. Promoter Mike Jacobs is down in Florida, sick, and his assistants are charging the outrageous fee of $30 for a ringside seat. Walcott generally isn't considered a proper match for Louis, and New York boxing circles still are agitated by doubts arising from the recent Lamotta-Fox debacle. 11-30-47

In fact, there seems to be nothing to recommend the affair except that Joe Louis will be making his first appearance in more than a year, and, from the standpoint of the promoter, that the fans have been rushing to the box office with handfulls of large, coarse bills.

Nobody admits to being much interested in whether Walcott can remain upright for four, six or even 15 rounds against the greatest fighter of the time, yet latest advices indicate that the gate will smash the all-time Garden record of $201,000 set 'way back in 1927 by Jack Delaney and Jimmy Maloney.

THE EXPLANATION seems to be that Louis, after holding the title for better than 10 years, is talking seriously of retiring, and a lot of fans are giving thought that they had better see him quick, if at all. Joe recognizes as well as the next that he has fought himself out of real competition, and the training grind is beginning to pall on him. Alabama.

Friday night's bout originally was to have been a 10-round "exhibition," a tacit admission by the promoters that they did not consider Walcott a genuine challenger for Louis' title. It was changed to a 15 and the ringside price hiked to $30 after the athletic commission pointed out tactfully that a heavyweight champion was defending his crown any time he entered the ring, no matter what they called it.

* * *

LOUIS HAS WORKED himself Sun.

into superb condition at his camp at Pompton Lakes, N. J. So far as the naked eye can discern, he is as good a man as he ever was. His eyes are clear, his face virtually unmarked still, and his legs look hard and muscular. His sparring partners say Joe hits harder than ever, and that the $200 per week and board that they earn is none too much for what they undergo.

Louis expects to weigh in at about 210 for Walcott. That will be only about 13 pounds more than he scaled the night he knocked out Jimmy Braddock for the title in 1936. The added pounds represent maturity, rather than the encroachment of suet at any particular point. His face looks a little bigger, and he might have added an inch or two around the hips.

* * *

WALCOTT IS SAID to be planning to step around Louis at a lively clip and to pile up points with counter-punching, at which he is adept. Conceding that Jersey Joe has been around a good while, himself and is no novice between the ropes, he scarcely is such a defensive genius as to hope to dodge the champion for 15 rounds.

Joe in training has been crowding his partners relentlessly. They haven't been able to evade him and even with the awkward 16-ounce gloves he has given them brutal punishment. Joe was asked if, while watching a bout between Walcott and Joey Maxim out on the coast last Summer, he noticed whether Walcott left any openings.

"Sure," he chortled, "I saw plenty of openings. So did Maxim. It wasn't a good fight."

* * *

WALCOTT, who also admits to 33 years, will come in at about 193. His supporters say that two things are for certain—that he isn't afraid of Louis, and that he will not "die" before he reaches the ring, as several of Joe's so-called rivals have done.

To make doubly certain that Jersey Joe doesn't contract the shakes beforehand, his manager took the extraordinary precaution several days ago of banning any further interviews with sports writers. The challenger's pilot feels that a fighter's confidence is not bolstered by being asked how long he thinks he can last with Louis. He's probably right.

## HEAVYWEIGHTS WHO MEET IN TITLE BOUT HERE ON FRIDAY

51e

Joe Louis

Jersey Joe Walcott The New York Time

# Here's Henry

Advertiser

*By Henry McLemore*

Montgomery, Ala.

IF YOU think for one single second that I am now going to apologize for my prediction that Joe Louis would obliterate Jersey Joe Walcott in the first split second of the first round in their heavyweight championship fight of last week, then you are plumb crazy.

As is my custom when I find myself at variance with the facts, I didn't rush to my typewriter immediately after the fight and dash off five or six hundred words of what, at best, could only have been hasty and ill-advised conclusions. That would have been hair-trigger stuff. As all of you readers know, while my spelling, syntax and punctuation are occasionally subnormal and sometimes non-existent, my judgments are always maturely considered, well documented, and arrived at only after unflagging and indefatigable research. Mon. 12-15-47

The truth is—and it grieves me to have to say this—the reason for my selection of Louis and my slighting comments on challenger Walcott is simply this:

I was betrayed by my friends.

LET us consider for a moment the handicaps under which I made my prediction on this fight. Inasmuch as I am unable to afford a new sled and earmuffs, I am forced to spend my winters in Florida. As the part of Florida in which I live is 1,138 1-2 miles from Madison Square Garden, I am deprived of the pivilege of discussing boxing with such authorities as Mushky Jackson, Fatso Zuckerman and other idlers on Jacobs' Beach.

So, when it came time for me to select the winner of the Walcott-Louis engagement, I wrote, wired and telephoned my friends who are boxing experts. Mr. Bill Corum of The New York Journal-American voiced the belief that Walcott would be lucky to outlast the referee's pre-fight instructions. Mr. Joe Williams frankly expressed doubt that there was such a man as Jersey Joe Walcott, Francis Albertanti, Esq., publicist in charge of the Walcott training camp (and the only surviving witness of the bare-knuckle fight between the Monitor and Merimac) told me that while he was trying his best to kid himself he would not kid an old friend, and that Walcott stood about as much chance as a pickpocket in a nudist camp.

Billy McCarney, who, incidentally, picked Louis over Schmeling the first time they fought and who is reputed to have been the knock-down timekeeper at the Cain vs. Abel fight, wired me collect to say that Walcott's life was adequately insured and his family would not suffer in the years to come. This general opinion was wholeheartedly concurred in by such newspapermen as Clair Kelly, Braven Dyer, Bob Murphy, Harry Salsinger, John Carmichael, Jimmy Burns, Arnold Fennifrock, Sec Taylor—just to mention a few.

So it was with a confident pen that I wrote my prediction as my mighty streamlined bus bore us swiftly from rut to rut on the journey from Florida to Manhattan.

12-15-47

THEN came the fight. I gave Walcott 13 rounds, which at best could leave only two rounds for Louis. Even had I not seen the fight, the pictures would have convinced me that Walcott won from here to Dalton Avenue, Los Angeles. The papers were filled with pictures of the fight, most of which showed Louis—"winner and still champion"—sitting on the back of his pants, wobbling on his knee-caps, or with a head which resembled a tired old basketball. On the other hand, Walcott—"loser, and still robbed"—was shown exhibiting his distress by smiling broadly and bouncing right and left hands off the champ's anatomy.

In conclusion, let me say that if Louis won it, the South won the Civil War, the Japs took our surrender aboard the Missouri, and Nelson got his ears pinned back at Trafalgar, and eggs are now 22 cents a dozen.

Experience being the best teacher, I have learned my lesson. When next June rolls around and another Louis-Walcott prediction is required, I will do exactly as I did this time. What good are your friends if you can't depend on them?

(Distributed by McNaught Syndicate, Inc.)

# Dustin' off the NEWS

Sat. 12-13-47

## Sparring Partners Always Dangerous

Defender. Chicago. Ill.

BY LUCIUS C. HARPER

Ring history shows that all former sparring partners of world's champions are dangerous. It has proven no exception in the case of Joe Louis, who actually was beaten by Jersey Joe Walcott, according to a poll of veteran scribes. Twenty-three gave the fight to Walcott, and only eleven voted for Louis. Had Walcott been Billy Conn -- on his feet after 15 such thrilling rounds --we would have had a new world's champion. Sat. 12-13-47

Champions have always been surprised by ex-sparring mates when they meet in the ring on equal terms. Jim Jeffries was once Jim Corbett's sparring partner when he was training for his fight with Fitzsimmons. Jeff told his manager, Delaney, "I can whip both of those guys, and I'll prove is someday." Later he proved it. Training Jeff for the Corbett fight was Bob Armstrong, Negro heavyweight. Later Jeff was matched with Bob, and to his surprise it took ten hard and tough rounds to do away with him.

Peter Jackson used a fighter named "Klondyke" while training for Corbett. Later in Chicago Jackson fought Klondyke on equal terms and barely weathered six thrilling rounds at old Tattersall.

The greatest upset staged by an ex-sparring partner came when Kid McCoy fought the champion Tommy Ryan. He trained Ryan for all his championship fights, and later, asked him for a chance in the ring "just to earn a little spending change." Ryan consented, and didn't train properly (as in the case of Joe Louis). To fool Ryan, McCoy hung around saloons in the day and pretended to be drinking hard. But at night he trained secretly in the Catskills. Ryan thought he had a set-up, as was true with Joe Louis.

On fight night Ryan was flabby, overweight: McCoy was perfect. In 15 rounds he knocked Ryan out; cut him almost to ribbons. The bout was entitled "The Great Doublecross." Somehow sparring partners know the weakness of champions, even though they don't take advantage of them in training quarters. But when things are equal, its a different story. Louis learned this just recently. Louis, I believe, can whip Walcott if he trains seriously, but he can't be a playboy and a world's champion too. They don't mix. Never did, and won't now. Those who manage Louis know more about this than we do ... and they are worried.

Defender, Chicago, Ill. 12-13-47 51e

# Capital Spotlight

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

by Louis Lautier

The vote of Ruby Goldstein, young referee working his first heavyweight championship fight, was ironical.

Before the fight, the Jersey Joe Walcott camp yelled that they didn't want Arthur Donovan as the third man in the ring because he had refereed all of Joe Louis's major fights in New York City. So, the the New York Athletic Commission signed Goldstein.

What fight fans didn't know was that Louis and Goldstein had served together in the Army. They were stationed at the same time at Camp Shanks and were assigned to special services.

**Both Entertained GI's**

They were part of a team of fighters who entertained soldiers in the New York area.

They visited Wright and Patterson Fields, Ohio, together, under the command of Captain Krem, to boost war bond sales and the morale of civilian employees. They did a comedy skit in which the kidded each other and Captain Krem. 12-20-47

After the visit to Wright and Patterson Fields they continued a tour which took them to Alaska, and they were great pals.

And to prove that he is impartial and a great referee—he himself was once a fighter—he voted against the champion and his pal and for Walcott whom he thought had won the fight.

**Public, Fans Fickle**

The public is fickle, and so are boxing fans. They acclaimed Walcott, the man who ran away, and booed Louis who has been a great champion.

Jack Johnson shunned Sam Langford as if the Boston Tar Baby had smallpox. Jack Dempsey drew the color line on Harry Wills.

But Joe has fought all contenders—Primo Carnera, King Levinsky, Max Baer, Paulino Uzcudun, Max Schmeling, Bob Pastor, Jim Braddock, Tommy Farr, Tony Galento, Arturo Godoy, Abe Simon, Buddy Baer, Billy Conn, Lou Nova, Tami Mauriello, and Walcott, to mention some of them.

Perhaps the handwriting is on the wall and Father Time has taken his toll—but next summer Joe will enter the ring an odds—on favorite to beat Walcott, whom Joe Maxim and Elmer Ray beat.

John Carter, the sportsman, Billy Woodson, the liquor store inspector, and Mary Simkins, the restaurateur, witnessed the Louis-Walcott fight. 12-20-47

One U Street tavern charged a buck a head to see the fight by television, gave each patron a bottle of beer, put out one bowl of potato chips, and made dough on the approximately 200 customers who crowded into one small room.

Another U Street tavern charged nothing for its television showing and the proprietor said he had one of his worst nights.

# Joes Split Pot On Garden Go; Louis 'Weak'

Journal & Guide Norfolk Va.

NEW YORK—(ANP)—Joe Louis received $77,580 and Joe Walcott $25,960 as their share of the gate from the recent historic event at Madison Square Garden. Since that event, Walcott has received offers netting him $150,000 for participation in various types of events from refereeing to participating in Canadian and South American bouts. They all want to see Jersey Joe—and Joe Louis wants to see him next June. Sat. 12-20

The champ, in a copyright story to Jimmy Cannon of the New York Evening Post, says he was too weak for the fight and had taken off too much weight. He said he should have stayed around 215 rather than train down to 211.

"Next time—" is another thing. Louis says he saw all of the punches coming that landed on his whiskers and knew every mistake Walcott made, but Louis was too weak to follow up to an advantage.

# Champion Wins Split Decision Over Walcott

Daily World

## Walcott Scores Two Knock Down Blows With Solid Rights

Atlanta Ga. Sat. 12-6-47

NEW YORK CITY, -(SNS)- Agressiveness paid big dividends, Friday night, at Madison Square Garden, as Joe Louis, after being out-boxed early in the fight, came from behind to win a split decision from Jersey Joe Walcott and retain his world heavyweight crown.

The outcome of the fight was uncertain until the decision of the judges and referee was announced and the record crowd of more than 18,000 fans who paid approximately $230,000 to see the fight was spell-bound at the final bell.

**SPLIT DECISION**

Judge Frank Forbes scored eight rounds for Louis; six for Walcott and one round even. Judge Marty Munroe scored nine rounds for Louis and six for Walcott. Referee Goldstein scored seven rounds for Walcott; six for Louis and two rounds even.

Putting up the greatest fight of his 16-year boxing career, Walcott apparently thought that he had the world heavyweight crown "in the bag," and made the fatal mistake of running away from a "pot of gold" in the fifteenth round.

**FLOORS CHAMP TWICE**

The Camden New Jersey challenger who a 15 to 1 shot before the fight started landed the initial damaging blow of the fight in the first round when he floored the champion for a count of two. Walcott continuing his strategy of "fighting and running away," tagged Louis with another solid right in the fourth and sent him to the canvas for a count of seven.

There was little action in the fifth, but Louis hit his stride and started throwing rights and left's in the sixth and seventh. Walcott was constantly on the move, but stopped long enough to land periodic rights to the champion's jaw and partially closed his left eye.

Louis spent most of his time maneuvering for an "opening," but could get in his famous one-two punch.

Walcott was the third fighter to go the limit with Joe Louis. Tommy Farr went 15 rounds against the champion on August 30, 1937 at New York and Arturo Godoy repeated this feat on February 9, 1940. This fight was also staged in New York.

Two years of comback fighting qualified Walcott for the title bout with Louis, and his amazing battle Friday night, at the Garden assured him another shot at the crown.

Louis Louis will receive 45 percent of the next receipts, together with a percentage of the movie, radio and television rights. Prior to the fight, it was estimated that this purse would amount to $100,000. Walcott signed for 15 percent of the night and his cut will be around $30,000, his largest purse.

Louis weighed in at 211 pounds, while Walcott weighed in at 194½.

# ABOUT THE JOE LOUIS FIGHT, READ AND YOU WILL KNOW, THAT JERSEY JOE WALCOTT, HAD A GOOD CHANCE TO SHOW, BUT IN THE NEXT FIGHT—WELL, MONEY MAY TELL! Dabney.

*Union. Cincinnati, Ohio.*

In searching through the records the following Walcott-facts came up for air: Walcott has been performing ring-duties on and off for almost 19 years. He has been through the mill and has had every dirty trick in the business pulled on him.

Few fans know about him. He once knocked Joe Louis down; and the Bomber stated: "Walcott hit me as hard a punch as I've ever been hit. Abe Simon claims that Jersey Joe hit him harder than Louis did.

After a three-year layoff Walcott came back to win 16 knockouts. He is a family man and has 6 children. He has beaten Jimmy Bivins, Cleveland; Joe Baski, Elmer Ray, Steve Dudas, Lee Oma, Curtis (Hatchet Man) Sheppard, Lorenzo Pack, Tommy Gomez and Joe Maxim to name a few.

He was born Arnold Raymond Cream out in Philadelphia. He took the fighting name of Joe Walcott because the first Walcott was the favorite fighter of his father. When Louis was discovered, Blackburn left with Roxborough and Black to handle the Motor City Bomber.

*Thur 12-11-47*

He was hired into the Louis camp just before the champ fought Max Schmeling.

During a training session, he put Louis on the canvas, which is a fact. Bill McGraw of the Philadelphia Record quotes Walcott as saying, "In two days, I floored him three times with 16-ounce gloves. With light gloves, I'd tear his head off. He's too easy to hit."

*Thur. 12-11-47*

A few days after Walcott dropped Louis, Louis' handlers dropped him out the camp. Walcott said they told him he wasn't a Louis' kind of fighter.

—"Jim" Butler, Detroit Tribune.

## LYONS DEN

*Louisville Courier Journal, Louisville, Ky.*

New York.

ON THE night of the Louis-Walcott fight, a New York union was about to call a strike against a large department store. The representatives of the store and of the union met with a mediator, who was unable to get them to negotiate. In fact, neither side would speak to the other. The mediator turned on the television set in the next room, and instructed an employee to bring him a report at the end of each round. As soon as the exciting reports started to arrive, one negotiator suggested that Walcott couldn't last. His opponent said Louis would not win. They started to argue about this, and by the tenth round both sides were making bets on the outcome of the fight. The deadlock of silence between them had been broken. By the time the 15th round ended, both sides were conciliatory and came to an agreement.

## Thinks Walcott Won

*Courier Journal, Louisville*

In my opinion, based on what I read in the press, Joe Walcott won the fight with Joe Louis. As I see it, the gate receipts should have been equally divided. I don't believe Louis will fight Walcott next June. If he does, Walcott will knock Louis out in or before the seventh round. *Louisville* VAN B. ALEXANDER.

## The Walcott-Louis Fight

*Courier Journal*

After reading Miss Kennaird's letter concerning the Louis-Walcott fight, I became sick at my stomach. It seems nowadays that people don't consider boxing an art which exhibits mental and physical coordination. Walcott had better sense than to toe it out with Louis, and, by pulling his punches, Walcott showed a great deal of sagacity and boxing ability. Also I don't think Miss Kennaird is in any position to criticize Joe Walcott. *Mon. 12-29-4[illegible]*

Louisville *Louisville Ky* ED. SIEGEL.

## The Walcott-Louis Fight

*Courier Journal, Louisville*

Did Julius Whitlock actually see the Louis-Walcott fight, or did he see the movie of it? I will give my opinion. Walcott was a human bicycle. He would hit Joe, or try to hit him, and then run. I mean run. Louis was after him in every round but couldn't catch him. In my opinion Walcott is a second-rate boxer. *Mon. 12-22-47*

If you can say that Walcott got a rotten deal after you have seen the picture of the actual fight, I pity you.

VERONICA KINNAIRD.

Jeffersonville, Ind.

# OFFICIALS UPHOLD VERDICT FOR LOUIS

## Walcott Protest Denied but He Is Promised a Return Bout Here Next June

*Times*

## CHAMPION IS AGREEABLE

*New York, N.Y.*

## Bomber Said to Favor Terms Giving Him 40 and Rival 20 Per Cent of Receipts

*Mon. 12-8-47*

By JAMES P. DAWSON

The State Athletic Commission yesterday rejected the request of Jersey Joe Walcott for a reversal of the decision which enabled Joe Louis to retain his world heavyweight title in last Friday night's controversial bout in Madison Square Garden.

Though rebuffed, as had been more or less expected, in his efforts to take the championship on a technicality, the Camden, N. J., Negro veteran was promised a chance to reverse the decision himself next June. With the authorization of Louis, Promoter Sol Strauss announced the titleholder was "willing to defend his title against Walcott under the auspices of the Twentieth Century S. C. in the Yankee Stadium, providing satisfactory terms could be arranged."

The groundwork thus was laid for a return engagement that should clear the most involved post-battle situation boxing has experienced since the "long count" struggle between Jack Dempsey and Gene Tunney in Chicago twenty years ago. The match will materialize for there should be no difficulty about terms. Louis is said to favor the conditions of his second battle against Billy Conn, when the champion received 40 per cent and the challenger 20 per cent, along with a share of the movie, radio and television rights and other concessions.

### Jersey Joe Willing

Walcott doubtless will leap at a chance to collect 20 per cent of a gate that may reach $1,000,000 or more, along with the opportunity to demonstrate he is Louis' master, particularly in view of the amazing battle he furnished against a tottering champion last Friday. *Mon. 12-8-47*

Walcott's application for a reversal of the Louis decision was disallowed after a brief appearance before Chairman Edward P. F. Eagan and Commissioner Dr. Clilan B. Powell. The meeting followed a conference among the two Commissioners and Assistant Attorney General John P. Powers, who pointed out that, although opinion is divided on the question of the Commission's jurisdiction in upsetting a boxing decision on review, the matter has never undergone a test at law.

The Commission's rejection was made in the following statement:

"Ordinarily the New York State Athletic Commission does not hear any appeals to protest decisions of ring officials in boxing. In this case, because Jersey Joe Walcott is from another state and is unfamiliar with our rules, we are granting him this hearing. Under the rules this commission must depend on the three officials assigned at each bout and, of course, it is obvious if the commission undertook to review the decisions of ring officials there could be no real certainty of the winner of a contest until after a commission review.

### Officials Carefully Chosen

"Jersey Joe Walcott and his manager, Joe Webster, are appearing before this commission to protest the decision of last Friday night's contest when Walcott boxed Joe Louis, he world heavyweight champion, for fifteen rounds. The officials of this contest were selected by the commission with care as experienced, honest and capable representatives. In selecting the three officials who acted, the power was granted to them to decide the winner by a unanimous or majority vote of two to one.

"In this contest the two judges voted for Louis and the referee for Walcott. The only question that is presented by this protest involves the decision of Frank Forbes, one of the judges. It is pointed out that although he gave Louis more rounds on his card, he gave more points to Walcott. In his discretion he named Louis the winner. He indicates this on the back of his card. *Times*

"If he had decided for Walcott with a fewer number of rounds but more points, he would have indicated the reason or reasons on the back of the card at that time for such a decision. Such reasons would have to indicate that he thought Walcott had inflicted the greater damage, had proven his definite superiority and finished in a better physical condition.

"Judge Forbes' decision to the contrary at that time was in his discretion and it, together with that of Martin Monroe (the other judge), continued Joe Louis as heavyweight champion of the world. This commission has no desire to interfere with the exercise of the discretion and judgment of competent, appointed officials.

### Urges Another Fight

"Joe Louis has always been a true sportsman and the New York Commission assumes he will give Joe Walcott another chance at the heavyweight title.

"At this time the New York Commission congratulates Jersey Joe Walcott on his splendid performance. He deserves great praise for his ability, sportsmanship and courage."

Manager Webster insisted that the record sho whis protest carried no reflection on the monopoly or integrity of any of the bout officials. Before returning to Camden, where an elaborate celebration awaited Walcott, the manager said he was considering an extensive exhibition tour for Walcott and indicated he might accept a ring engagement for Walcott some time in March.

The likelihood of a battle against a dangerous foeman is regarded as slim, particularly in view of projected plans for the return bout in June. It is known Louis does not contemplate another ring engagement until he faces Walcott again for what may be the champion's last fight.

### Taking No Chances

It is not considered likely Promoter Strauss will permit Walcott to expose himself against an opponent who, through beating Walcott or making him appear in an unfavorable light, would jeopardize the only available card for an outdoor bout. *New York. N. Y.*

The fact that Louis is under exclusive contract to the Twentieth Century S. C. and publicly announced his intention of fighting only for that organization, discourages bids from out-of-town fight centers for the return battle. It is known a Detroit syndicate is considering offering the use of Briggs Stadium there for the proposed second match, in cooperation with the Twentieth Century club.

An echo of the dissatisfaction with the two-to-one decision for Louis came yesterday in the announcement that Assemblyman Louis A. Cioffi, Democrat, plans to reintroduce in the State Legislature a bill demanding a complete and thorough investigation of the State Athletic Commission, which he characterized as "honest but naive and incompetent."

# Jersey Joe's Protest Futile

Afro American

Commission Upholds Judge's Decision

## NO PRECEDENT

Both Men Ready for Return Match

**BULLETIN**

**NEW YORK — Joe Louis on Monday agreed to fight Joe Walcott again in June, the champion to receive 40 per cent of the net. Walcott will be offered 20 per cent and is expected to accept.**

By ART CARTER

NEW YORK — Denying Jersey Joe Walcott's claim to the heavyweight title, based on a technicality in the score card of Judge Frank Forbes, the New York State Athletic Commission on Monday ruled that Joe Louis is still heavyweight champion of the world.

Both Eddie Eagan, chairman of the Commission, and Dr. C. B. Powell, a commissioner, declared, "This Commission has no desire to interfere with the exercise of discretion and judgment of its competent appointed officials."

In other words, they upheld the right of Forbes to name Louis the winner on rounds although he gave Walcott more points.

Following the hearing, Walcott, who was smiling and unmarked, said, "I am greatly disappointed because I thought that the Commission would change the decision."

Eagan said that he assumed that Louis would give Walcott another chance and congratulated the loser by saying that Walcott deserves another shot.

Neither Louis nor any representative was present at the hearing. The appeal was filed by Joe Webster, rotund Camden (N.J.) tavern owner who manages Jersey Joe.

His appeal was likened to a ball player's beefing to Commissioner Happy Chandler over an umpire's decision on balls and strikes, or a football coach is taking a squawk over a pass interference ruling to the rules commissioner.

Such decisions, like the Louis, Walcott fight verdict, are purely discretionary with the men on the spot, and sports history fails to record the time that one has been reversed.

**Round, Point Scoring**

Referee Ruby Goldstein gave the decision to Walcott, giving Jersey Joe 7 rounds; Louis, 6, and calling two even. Judge Marty Monroe scored it for Louis, with 9 rounds for the champion and 6 for the challenger, while Judge Frank Forbes saw Louis winning 8 rounds; Walcott, 6, and one even.

In the point compilation, the **factor on which Webster and Jersey Joe based their claim to the title, Goldstein had Walcott with 15 points; Louis, 12. Monroe gave Louis 11 points, and Walcott, 10, and Forbes tallied Louis with 9 points, and Walcott, 12.**

**Bad Judgment Laid to Forbes**

Webster charged that under the Eddie Eagan system, a point system devised by the chairman of the N.Y. State Boxing Commission after whom it is named, Forbes's vote should have been for Walcott.

**Webster, in his argument before the commission, said that Forbes used bad judgment in not voting for Walcott, and that with his ballot, which should have been for Jersey Joe, and Golstein's vote, Walcott should have been the winner.**

Much abuse also has been directed at Marty Monroe, the other judge, whose tally clearly gave Louis the victory.

**Still Being Debated**

**The controversy is easily the biggest in the fight game since the hot Dempsey-Tunney long-count debate. Newspapers, radio stations, the 20th Century Sporting Club, promoters of the fight, and the Boxing Commission have been deluged with protests from fans all over the country.**

**Street corner arguments have cropped up in every town and hamlet where a radio carried the description of the battle.**

**Champion Louis himself was disgusted with his "bad showing," and went into seclusion immediately after the fight.**

**The humiliation of a sloppy performance on Louis's part proved too much for the sensitive titleholder, who has ruled the beak-busting business for a full decade plus six months.**

**Roxborough Talks for Him**

**John Roxborough, Louis's chief adviser, was authorized to talk for the champion on Saturday and said that Joe was willing and ready to fight Walcott again, but not until the summer as he would sail in mid-February on the previously arranged "Health and Holiday" exhibition tour to England.**

**Roxborough also stated that Webster's protest was Jersey Joe's affair with the Commission and that neither he nor any of Louis's retinue would intervene in any way in it.**

**"The officials' ruling is final as far as we are concerned. We have nothing to do with any protest, and would not appear if invited, "Roxie stated.**

**Forbes Defends Action**

**Frank Forbes stated to the AFRO that "I called it as I saw it." Otherwise he had no comment.**

**The rules of the NY Commission, however, support Forbes and Monroe in their scoring, but it will not settle any arguments as to their judgement.**

**Rule 6, Section 3 of the NY code, which is the one under which Forbes reached his decision, states:**

**"At the end of the contest, the boxer winning the greater number of rounds shall be declared the winner. Should it develop that both contestants have an equal number of rounds won, the decision may be given to the one who has the greater number of points.**

**"Should the points also be even, the official may award the decision to the contestant who, in his opinion, is in the better physical condition at the end of the bout.**

**"It shall be discretionary with ring officials to award the contest to a boxer who has won a lesser number of rounds than his opponent only in cases where, said contestant has inflicted the greater amount of damage and has proved his definite superiority over his opponent during the contest and finished in a better physical condition.**

**"The total points of such a winner over a fewer number of rounds shall be more than those of his opponent."**

Thus, the rules saved the title for Louis. Walcott twice dumped him on the canvas, half closed his left eye, and generally made him ineffective with a side shifting of his body and quick jitterbug step that kept him out of range of Louis's punches.

**Rode Bicycle too Long**

On the other hand, Walcott ran away from the championship. He was ahead on all of the officials cards at the end of the 13th round, but, on advice from his corner, went riding on his bicycle.

Had he elected to fight, to go in and mix it with Louis, he would have scored a few points in the final two stanzas and might be the champion today, but he forced Louis to chase him all around the roped enclosure for the full six minutes of the final two rounds. All officials gave Louis the last two rounds.

They were unanimous on this point.

As a matter of fact, Louis was the aggressor throughout the fight. He tried hard to carry the fight to Walcott.

**Might Tave Been Thrown Out**

Roxborough said that if Louis had not forced the fight, both of them would have been thrown out of the ring. "Jersey Joe ran more than Bob Pastor," Roxie added, "Joe tried to get him to come to him and failed."

Nobody will deny that Louis was the aggressor throughout the fight, nor that it is not customary to give the title to a fellow who runs away.

But these facts only serve to increase the controversy, and bring up what is a natural aftermath of a debatable decision—a return match.

**Return Match Agreed Upon**

Louis has agreed to a return match, and Walcott has stated emphatically that he'll "fight him tomorrow."

Sol Strauss, major domo at the 20th Century Sporting Club in the absence of the ailing Mike Jacobs, who missed his first Louis fight, of course, is anxious to get the two principals signed for a rematch, but no negotiations have been started.

The return bout plans will be made, however, as Louis deeply humiliated by his poor performance has avowed that he will not retire that he wants to fight Walcott again, and that he thinks he can knock Walcott out.

As a matter of record, Louis always has kayoed his foes the second time around.

While Louis stayed in seclusion, Walcott was taking the bows at his Camden, N.J., home, with his wife and six children, and preparing for a big celebration under sponsorship of the townspeople Monday night when they propose to proclaim him "champion."

Meanwhile, the difficulty of Jersey Joe getting any satisfaction out of his appeal for a reversal of the decision was further emphasized by Eddie Eagan, chairman of the boxing commission.

Eagan declared that the commission depends entirely on its officials for all ring decisions, good or bad: and that no precedent exists, or is possible under the state boxing law for an alteration in the vote of officials in subsequent review.

**Hearing to Be Private**

Eagan also stated that the officials have complete discretionary power in their voting, and despite all the clamor regarding the Eagan point system, the rounds decide a fight, subject to an official's discretion.

The hearing was scheduled to be private, with only Webster and other Walcott representatives stating their case. The full commission has not been summoned to hear their story, but if Eagan deems it necessary the matter will go before the full commission on Friday.

# Winner of AFRO Contest Says Bomber Is Still King of Heavyweights to Him

Afro-American

Tennessee Student Admits Bad Moments, Tells Thrill of First Flight, Seeing New York

By SAMUEL HOSKINS

NEW YORK — To Mordecai Walker, Tennessee State College freshman who won top honors in the AFRO's popularity contest by picking Joe Louis over Jackie Robinson, the Brown Bomber is "winnah and still champ."

Walker, who saw his idol win the disputed decision in the Madison Square title bout with Jersey Joe Walcott Friday, made this known Saturday morning when interviewed at Hotel Theresa.

Not only this, but the 23-year-old Louis fan climbed out on the limb and predicted that if and when Louis and Walcott meet again the champ will "take him, maybe in the first round."

He admitted, however, that once or twice during the Louis-Walcott battle the crown rested precariously upon the champ's head and that maybe, the AFRO is due a refund on the $30 seat purchased for him as he spent much of the time either standing or climbing upon it.

**Biggest Thrill in Ninth**

And during the earlier rounds when the challenger treated the Brown Bomber pretty rough, he found it quite difficult to relax Walker declared.

Walker stated that it was in the ninth round, when the challenger and challenged stood toe to toe and slugged it out, that he got his biggest thrill.

"It was so terrific that I knew had it lasted somebody would have to go, either Walcott, Louis or me," he declared.

**Glad He Won Contest**

But the fight was not the only thing which thrilled Walker. He "got a big kick" out of winning the contest as well as from the trip financed by the AFRO, from Nashville to New York City.

And to prove his appreciation he gave a detailed account of the entire venture and the steps leading to it.

He is a constant reader of the AFRO and decided to enter the contest after reading the first announcement. At first he was inclined to pick Jackie over Joe. But after thinking it over, decided that Robinson did not compare with Louis.

**Joe an International Figure**

"Why? Joe is known the world over, Jackie is only a hero in the baseball world, and mostly because he was the first of his race to play in the big leagues."

He said that compared with baseball immortals, Jackie would be just another name on the list of unknowns.

"Compared with the great boxers of yesterday, today and a far away tomorrow, Joe's record tops the list." So he decided on the prize fighter over the ball player and "was lucky enough to win."

**His Fight Flight**

The trip to New York City, via the Eastern Airlines, was a thrill too. For it was his first time to fly, although he was a bit apprehensive about it at first — "you know, I was remembering those recent crashes."

He was surprised at the courteousness displayed by the stewardesses and passengers on the plane. His seat partner, a white man enroute to New York City, was very friendly. But he (Walker) was disappointed because he did not see

as much of the country (mountains, towns and rivers) as he had anticipated seeing from the air.

"Once you're above the clouds there's not much else to see but clouds," he said.

**Everything as He Expected**

But he got a good view of New York City and LaGuardia Field coming in and both were just as he had imagined they would be, and the same was true of Harlem and Hotel Theresa.

He spent the first night writing cards to friends back home and attending a movie on 125th St. The picture showing was "Gone With the Wind," which he had been trying to "catch up with" for years.

"It was a good picture, but it is too long," was his only comment.

Friday he took a casual stroll up and down Seventh Ave. and after the fight he went to Small's Paradise "because I've heard so much about Small's."

**All Right to Visit**

Walker said there were two reasons why he would not like to live in New York. First, there are too many people for one person to possibly know all of them. "In my home town (Odessa, Fla.) everybody knows everybody else."

The second reason is he cannot understand why in God's name they want to pile people that high up. He said that in his home town, also, they have plenty of space.

"New York is all right to visit," he reiterated, "but it's no place to call home."

While in the city he met a young man with whom he attended high school, Clarence Hayes, and G. H. Harris of Chattanooga, Tenn., an AFRO distributor.

He also visited the 135th St. Library and was shown through the Schomburg Collection.

**A South Pacific Veteran**

**Walker, who is a veteran of World War II, is the holder of two battle stars, having seen action in the South Pacific. He is the son of the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Walker of Odessa and has four sisters.**

**While in the Army he engaged in amateur fighting and was in two tournaments. Football is his favorite sport, then come track and basketball.**

**The AFRO's guest to the Louis-Walcott fight left New York City at 12:20 Saturday afternoon.**

**"It was a wonderful trip and I will never forget the AFRO," he said, going out the hotel door to catch a cab for LaGuardia Field.**

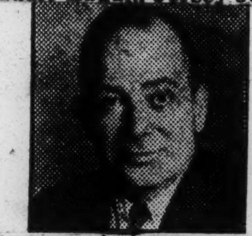
## AT HEARING IN STATE ATHLETI[C] [C]OMMISSION'S HEADQUARTERS HERE

**Left to right: Boxing Commissioner Eddie Eagan, Jersey Joe Walcott and Joe Webster, the heavyweight's manager**

# Tom Meany:

PM. Nov 12-8-47

## Leo and Shotton; Louis and Walcott



It seems that now that one controversy in sports has ended, another has only begun. About the only thing a guy can be sure of these days is that Notre Dame has a whale of a football squad. Now that Leo Durocher has been washed in the blood of the lamb and restored to the managership of the Dodgers, there is a great to-do over the split decision Joe Louis received in his bout with Jersey Joe Walcott, the proud papa from Camden.

Since the Durocher affair was the first to force sports fans into choosing up sides, let's get at that. It appears now that Branch Rickey's delay in naming Durocher was to make sure that the Lip would be able to operate without handcuffs after Happy Chandler had granted absolution. That and consideration for Barney Shotton, who did such a grand job as pro tem manager.

Durocher's suspension was wholly unjustified. After Chandler had given him a clean bill of health in January, Leo behaved as though butter wouldn't melt in his mouth, even at black market prices. The charges of Larry MacPhail against the Dodgers didn't contain anything which merited suspending Leo for five minutes, as MacPhail himself admitted.

***Whipping Boy For Chandler***

Durocher came before Chandler at a time when Happy looked so much like a figurehead commissioner you could almost hear the crinkling of the papier-mache. He needed a whipping boy badly and Leo was handiest, having just been denounced by the CYO for his marital affairs. Out went the Lip and then Chandler's stooges in the press did all they could to blacken Leo by way of justifying the totally unmerited suspension.

Although there was nothing in the testimony at the Sarasota or St. Petersburg hearings to cause the suspension of anybody, all of Chandler's sports writing gang jumped on Leo when he was down. That made it tough for Rickey to right the wrong done by the commissioner. It has been righted at long last.

***Walcott Won The Decision***

Friday night's decision at the Garden now. With radio, television and movie fans, there are now at least 10,000,000 self-appointed judges who feel that Jersey Joe took the short end. I thought Walcott won the decision but not overwhelmingly. Those who are protesting the decision loudest are unconsciously permitting themselves to be swayed by the fact that Walcott made a far better fight than anticipated and that Louis never put up a poorer exhibition.

Walcott, even if he received the decision which referee Ruby Goldstein and at least two-thirds of the press box thought he was entitled to, is still a second-rater, a fact generally lost sight of. Jersey Joe made the champ look bad but not half as bad as Louis made himself look.

***Couldn't Get Away From Sucker Rights***

I'm convinced that if Louis had won the decision undisputedly, he would have quit the ring on the spot, neved to fight again. He has to fight now to give Walcott his deserved return bout. To quit now and throw the title into an open scramble would be an injustice to Walcott.

Louis made what fight there was, by pursuing Walcott all night. The Bomber, however, took all the worst of the punishment and repeatedly couldn't get away from sucker right hands. If Joe had waited for the challenger to lead, we'd all be at the Garden yet, without a blow having been struck.

Giving Louis all credit for having done the forcing, however ineptly, the fact remains that Walcott won the fight. He gave out the more punishment, absorbed the less. That is about as simple a formula for determining the winner as there is, so simple that some day the judges of the Boxing Commission may even tumble to it. Don't bet on it, though.

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51e 1947 Louis (Walcott--Results)

# Louis and Walcott Agree to Rematch

## N. Y. Commission to Hear Protest By Challenger On Fight Decision

By JACK CUDDY, United Press Sports Writer.

New York, Dec. 6 (UP) — Heavyweight champion Joe Louis today agreed to a rematch with Jersey Joe Walcott at Yankee Stadium next June as Col. Eddie Eagan, chairman of the New York Boxing Commission, prepared to hear a protest from the challenger against last night's widely-disputed decision.

Marshall Miles, Louis' manager, agreed verbally to the return bout as a means of settling the greatest boxing controversy since the "long count" in the 1927 Dempsey-Tunney fight.

X-rays disclosed that Louis' right hand, which he believed had been broken in the fifth round, was not fractured but only badly bruised and would not interfere with an $80,000 exhibition tour he is scheduled to open in London in February.

While official percentages shared by the fighters were not revealed, Sol Strauss, acting director of the 20th Century Sporting Club, estimated that Louis would receive $90,000 as his share of the receipts, including television and radio, and an additional $100,000 from the motion pictures. Walcott's share was set at $30,000 and $45,000 from the movies.

The disappointed Walcott returned to Camden, N. J., to visit his three-year-old daughter, Edna, injured three weeks ago in an automobile accident. He said he would return for Eagan's hearing on Monday.

Meanwhile, the clamor against the decision reached such proporations that the office of Gov. Thomas Dewey in Albany was deluged with protests. The former racket buster's office said they probably would be turned over to Eagan, chairman of the boxing commission, for action.

Eagan refused to be drawn out on the possibility of a reversal of the official split decision by virtue of which Louis kept the crown. But protests were reaching a crescendo, just as they did in Madison Square Garden last night when Louis won on rounds but lost on points.

Technically, under New York boxing rules, the point system is brought into judgment only when the referee and two judges fail to agree on a round winner.

**POINTS**

The main issue was that Judge Frank Forbes voted Louis as the winner of the most rounds—along with Judge Marty Monroe—but gave Walcott the most points. Under the rounds system, the two judges swayed the verdict.

But referee Ruby Goldstein saw Walcott the winner both ways—and so Walcott wound up with the most points.

That prompted Manager Joe Webster to request a hearing before the state athletic commission in an attempt to have the decision reversed. Such a reversal would be unprecedented, for the commission never has reversed the decision of the ringside officials. Such a course was seen unlikely here, too.

But whether or not it grants or rejects the protest, one of the greatest gates in boxing history appeared assured for the Louis-Walcott rematch tentatively set for next June.

Walcott had not yet been consulted about the rematch but he announced in his dressing room immediately after the fight that he wanted to meet Louis again "as soon as possible."

**BAFFLED**

So, too, did the public. Because for the first time in the 10 years since the Brown Bomber won the heavyweight championship of the world they saw him battered and baffled.

Walcott had studied movies of all Louis' fights and he came up with a confusing style which Louis was unable to fathom. On top of that he twice put Louis on the floor, in the first round for a two count and again in the fourth round for a seven count.

Most of the ringside experts were of the opinion, also, that Walcott should have been declared the winner.

Joining the hue and cry, the Police Gazette, oldest boxing magazine in the world, announced that it would recognize Walcott as champion of the world.

"The decision favoring Louis was one of the most raw I've ever seen," declared Publisher H. H. Roswell. "We are wiring Gov. Thomas E. Dewey and boxing commission chairman Eagan demanding action."

# Louis Retains Title In Split Decision; Fans Boo Judges

MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, NEW YORK, Dec. 5.—(AP)—Joe Louis survived two knockdowns tonight to defeat Jersey Joe Walcott in a gruelling 15-round fight and retain his heavyweight championship.

The champion, his left eye virtually closed for the last half of the battle, won on a split decision. Both judges Frank Forbes and Marty Monroe gave him the nod over his opponent from Camden, N. J., but refree Ruby Goldstein voted for Walcott.

The crowd hooted the decision. Louis was so disgusted at his failure to stop Walcott that when the final bell sounded he tried to leave the ring at once and was restrained from doing so by his seconds.

Forbes gave Louis eight rounds and Walcott six; Monroe voted for Louis, nine rounds to six; Goldstein gave Walcott seven rounds, Louis six and called two even. Louis weighed 211 pounds;

Louis was knocked down in the first round for a count of two and hit the canvas again in the fourth for a seven count, both times from fierce rights to the jaw. Walcott, a fleeting figure, never was knocked down and still appeared fresh as a daisy at the finish.

Walcott, who had been expected to succumb early, put up a surprising battle. From start to finish he didn't hesitate to trade rights with Louis, and it was only his inability to evade the champion's left jabs in the latter rounds that cost him the championship. Louis' nose was bleeding at the finish as he chased Walcott relentlessly around the ring.

The round by round descriptive follows:

**Round One**

There was a slight delay as the fighters gloves were adjusted. Walcott landed two left jabs to Louis' head. Walcott was moving away from Louis. Louis landed a terrific right to the head and a left to the head and Walcott came back with a right to the head. Louis landed another right to the head. Louis moved in on Walcott who was backing away. They exchanged lefts. Walcott landed a left and a right to the head. Louis landed a hard right to the head. Walcott landed a right to the head flooring Louis for no count. Walcott landed another hard right to the head. Walcott landed another right and left to the head and stung Louis with a hard right. Louis stung Walcott with a right to the head at the bell.

Walcott was backing away from Louis at the bell.

**Round Two**

Louis missed a steaming right. Walcott clipped Louis with a right to the head. They exchanged left jabs in mid-ring. Walcott landed two left jabs to the head and followed with two more. Walcott landed a left and a right to the head. Walcott landed another jab to the head as he backed away. Louis landed a right to the head and added two left jabs to the face. Walcott landed a hard right to the jaw at close quarters. Walcott kept backing away from Louis and the champion kept backing away.

Louis, in the first round, had a count of two called on him.

**Round Three**

Walcott landed a left to the face and took a left to the head in return. Louis landed a left and right to the head on the retreating Walcott. Louis connected with two left jabs to the face. Louis landed two more left jabs to the face. Louis outjabbed Walcott two to one. Walcott landed a hard right to the head. Walcott took a left in the face as he backed away. Louis landed a right to the body. They exchanged a pair of lefts in mid-ring. Walcott landed a hard right to Louis' face. Walcott added another hard right to the face and took a hard right to the face at the bell.

**Round Four**

Louis landed a light left jab to the face. They exchanged lefts to the head. Walcott landed a hard right to the face that dropped Louis for a count of seven. Walcott missed a hard right and they clinched. Walcott missed a left and landed a hard right to the body. Walcott missed another hard right then followed with a jolting right to the head and followed that with another right to the head and took a left to the face in return. Louis landed a left to the head. Walcott landed a streaming right to the jaw. Walcott landed another right to the face. Louis landed a left to Walcott's head as the challenger backed away. Louis landed a left to Wilcott's face at the bell.

Walcott was weaving from side to side to avoid the oncoming Louis. Every now and then he would stop and let go with a right to the head.

**Round Five**

Louis was bleeding slightly from the nose. The champion was now waiting for Walcott to come to him. Louis landed two left jabs to the head. Walcott landed a left to the face as Louis started moving in again. They exchanged left jabs. Louis landed a left jab to the head. Louis landed a left to the head and Walcott came back with a hard right to the body. Louis landed a hard left hook to the body. Louis sent a long left to the body. Walcott connected with two left jabs. They exchanged left jabs at the bell.

**Round Six**

Louis is backing up now. Walcott landed a left to the body. Louis landed two lefts jabs to the head. Louis started moving forward again and missed a hard left and right to the head. Louis jabbed to the head and body. Louis landed a left to the body and caught Walcott's right on the shoulder. Walcott landed a left to the head. Walcott landed a left and right hook to the body. Louis landed a hard left jab to Walcott's head. Walcott missed a couple hard rights to the head. An exchange of lefts and rights in mid-ring. Walcott landed a hard right to the head and took a hard right in return. Walcott roughed the champion at close quarters as the round ended.

**Round Seven**

Walcott was moving from side to side and Louis was finding it difficult to get a stationary target. They exchanged jabs in mid-ring. Walcott connected with a left to the head and Louis came back with a left jab to the head. Louis missed with two left jabs and took a right to the jaw from Walcott. Walcott landed another right hook to the head. Louis scored with a left jab to the chin. Walcott landed a right to the head and took a left and right in return. Louis landed a hard right to Walcott's face. They exchanged lefts. Walcott landed two lefts and a right to the face just before the bell.

**Round Eight**

They exchanged lefts. Louis scored with a left and took a right in return. Walcott was poking at Louis' left eye which was swollen and beginning to close. Louis landed a left to the body. Walcott hit Louis over the eye again and jolted Louis with a hard right to the face. Louis scored with a right and took a right to the body in return. Louis connected with a left jab. Louis scored with a hard right to the body and took a hard right to the body in return. Louis sent over a stiff left jab to Walcott's face. Walcott seemed full of pep at the end of the round and momentarily had halted his backstepping.

**Round Nine**

Louis connected with a stiff left jab to the head. Louis sent another left to the body and took two rights to the head. Walcott let go with another hard right to Louis' swollen side of the face. Louis scored with a left jab and missed a hard right. Louis landed a left and right at the ropes and then walloped Walcott with another right to the head. Walcott jumped back with a hard right to the head. They mixed furiously in mid-ring. Walcott sent over another hard right to the head. Louis got in a hard right to the head. Walcott took a series of lefts and rights from Louis in mid-ring. Louis hit Walcott with a hard right that staggered the challenger. They were hammering away at each other at the bell.

For a moment it looked like Louis had Walcott on the way out but the challenger came off the ropes and exchanged wallops with the champion.

**Round Ten**

Louis connected with a left jab to the head. Walcott continued to back away from the champion. They exchanged left jabs in mid-ring. Louis scored with a left jab and took a hard left jab to the face. Louis landed a left and missed another left to the face. Louis connected with another left jab to the face. Louis sent over a left to the body. Louis stabbed over two more left jabs and missed with a right. Louis sent two more lefts to Walcott's face. Walcott's backaway policy seemed to have Louis confused.

**Round Eleven**

Louis sent over a left to the body. Louis drove another left to the body. Louis clipped two left jabs to Walcott's face. Walcott stabbed Louis with a left to the face. Walcott hit Louis with a left and took a left in return. They exchanged lefts again. Walcott hit Louis with another right to the face. Louis landed a hard right to Walcott's jaw. Walcott came back with a hard right to the head. They swapped body blows at close quarters. Louis drove over another left. Walcott connected with a right to the head on the advancing champion. Louis' left eye was closing to a slit.

**Round Twelve**

Louis hit Walcott with a left to the body. The champion continued to stalk Walcott. Walcott clipped Louis with a left and took a left in the face in return. Walcott was peppering away at Louis' swollen side of the face. Walcott shot over a right to Louis' head. Walcott continued to connect with lefts as he backed away. Louis scored with a hard left and right to the head and Walcott came back with a left to the face. The action had slowed down again. Walcott landed two more lefts then a right to Louis' head. Walcott took a left to the face and then connected with a left and right to the head. Referee Goldstein warned Walcott for a backhand punch.

**Round Thirteen**

The challenger was showing plenty of pep despite his retreating and sidestepping policy. Walcott hit Louis with a right to the head. Louis jabbed Walcott with two lefts to Walcott's face. They exchanged left jabs. Walcott landed two more lefts to the head as he backed away. Walcott nailed Louis with a right and two lefts to the head. Walcott ripped over another right hook and took a stiff left to the face in return. Walcott fell on a slip. There was no count. They exchanged lefts and rights in mid-ring. Walcott nailed Louis with a left and right hook to the head after they had swapped jabs to the head at the bell.

**Round Fourteen**

Louis sent over two left jabs to the face and then scored with two more left jabs to the face. Louis sent over two more left jabs to the face and was hit with two right hooks to the head. Louis nailed Walcott with a hard right to the head. Walcott scored with two lefts as he backed away and then crossed with two rights to the head as he backed away. Walcott outjabbed Louis two to one. Each got in a left jab. Louis smashed over a

hard right. Walcott continued to drive over left jabs as he tried to back away. They swapped hard and left jabs in mid-ring. Each connected with a hard right to the head. Louis seemed flustered as Walcott took a left to the head and took a left hook to the body as the round ended.

**Round Fifteen**

Louis scored with two lefts to the head and took one from Walcott. Louis kept after Walcott. Louis stalked after Walcott who sidestepped and backpedaled away. A left to the nose brought blood from Louis. Walcott sent over another left jab to Louis' nose. Walcott drove over four more left jabs and a short right to Louis' nose. Walcott was dancing away from the champion, driving over occasional left jabs to Louis' bleeding nose. Louis could not catch up with the fast-moving challenger. Walcott sent over two left jabs to Louis' face as the champion missed hard right to the face. Walcott connected with a hard right to Louis' face at the bell.

# Louis Lost, But Don't Count Him Out Yet

Courier-Journal

IT IS not yet time to write a post-mortem for JOE LOUIS. The Tan Terror is still the Champ, though we have to agree with the spectators and sports writers who think that Jersey JOE WALCOTT deserves to wear the crown today. Like thousands of other fans at the radio, we dreaded to hear the decision which we felt certain must take the title from the truly great champion, and it was with more disapproval than relief that we heard the split verdict. Louisville, Ky.

Still, it is too early to relegate JOE to the ash-heap. Though Friday night's fight sounded more like two mediocre preliminary fighters than an exhibition of the fearful prowess of the Brown Bomber, JOE LOUIS can still come back. He has done it before —after being chopped down by a SCHMELING right hand that worked much like that of WALCOTT, and again after a dismal showing against a second-rate BILLY CONN. Sun. 12-7-47

Whatever his future, the ring will lose perhaps its greatest champion when JOE steps down. A great fighter, a great sportsman and a gentleman in the ring and out of it, JOE LOUIS will leave more than a string of victories for future boxers to shoot at. We do not think his days in the championship can yet be numbered. But the LOUIS of Friday night was a far cry from the graceful machine of destruction that came out of the Detroit factories more than a decade ago.

## HENRY'S A BUM

Advertiser

Seldom if ever have the sports experts been so confounded as by the outcome of the Joe Louis-Jersey Joe Walcott fight Friday night. When it comes to unadorned ridicule and sarcasm poured on with all the finesse of a sledge hammer, your sports writer, especially ... ort who have graduated to the colu... class, are without peer. A lot of ..., were due to be eating crow yesterday morning, and if they laid dough in keeping with their prophecies they should also have been otherwise indisposed.

Sports writers are tireless in advising the other fellow. They can tell you with more assurance than a dowager entering a drawing room ... inevitable outcome of bout or game, but strange to say, seldom seek to cash in on this infallibility. Maybe they just don't feel that it would be fair to gyp the other fellow by taking advantage of their strange power.

Take as an example The Advertiser's columnist, Henry McLemore. Henry is one of the most popular commentators in the nation. Dealing in large measure with the lighter vein, known for the humorous and folksy way in which he writes, he has a deservedly wide following. As a sports prognosticator he rates absolutely nil in our estimation since the outcome of Friday night's fracas. Sun. 12-7-47

You may have read in McLemore's column of Friday morning where he branded all dumb enough to attend the Louis-Walcott fight as suckers, declared that the challenger did not even belong on the same planet with the champ, and asserted that the betting was mostly on which way Walcott would fall when Louis landed.

McLemore's pre-fight satirical flight differed only in degree from a lot of others. On the eve of the battle, according to the AP, the betting was mostly even money on whether Jersey Joe would last more than four rounds against the Brown Bomber.

Instead, Walcott went the full 15 rounds, floored Louis twice and failed to unseat the champ by a two-to-one decision that was booed by spectators.

Louis showed lots of courage and stamina, keeping at it with his left eye virtually closed for the last half of the scrap. Although he squeaked by this one in what was supposed to be a setup, the outcome underlines that no matter how good they are, or have been, if they keep at it long enough they usually meet their match. The trouble lies, of course, in figuring out just when the champion will topple.

# Louis Reveals Plan To Retire Next Summer

Advertiser Montgomery, Ala. 11-22-47

**After Walcott Fight, Champ To Quit, Regardless**

NEW YORK, Dec. 11. — (AP) — Heavywtight Champion Joe Louis told a reporter for the Bronx Home News today that "win, lose or draw" he would retire from the ring after his return bout with Jersey Joe Walcott next summer at Yankee Stadium.

Louis, who has not left his apartment in upper Manhattan since last Friday night's fight with Walcott, expressed complete confidence that he would win by a knockout the next time he faces the Camden, N. J., veteran.

"I'll be in better shape the next time," Louis declared, adding that he was "very, very weak" in last week's bout. 11-22-47

He said he should have weighed 214 pounds for Walcott instead of 211, and blamed his poor condition on the fact that he "dried out" strenuously the day before the scrap. He admitted that Mannie Seamon, his trainer, had not approved of the drying out.

Joe said he realized early in the fight that he was not in shape when he was unable to work up a sweat. Further proof came, he said, when a cut under his left eye did not bleed.

The Home News reporter said that Louis had seen only close friends and his 3-year-old daughter since the fight. He said the champion's left eye, swollen nearly shut after the bout, was back to normal.

Commenting on conjecture in the press that he was washed up, Louis said:

"Nobody knows whether I'm through except myself. I know how I feel and I know I'm not finished." Advertiser

# Louis Is Still Champ New York Commission Rules

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.

NEW YORK — The New York Athletic Commission Monday upheld the decision made last Friday night, which gave Joe Louis the retention of his heavyweight title over Jersey Joe Walcott after a close fistic battle. Sat. 12-13-47

Walcott and his manager, Joe Webster, appeared before Eddie Eagan, chairman of the commission, and commissioner C. B. Powell to protest the scoring of Frank Forbes.

Forbes awarded the fight to Louis on the basis of rounds, while on the point basis, Walcott held an edge 12 to 9.

Eagan said the commission did not make a practice of reviewing decisions made by its officials, but since Walcott and Webster were residents of another state, he granted the hearing to give them full knowledge of the New York rules.

# Louis Settles Wife's Suit

12-16-47 PM New York

A writ of attachment tying up heavyweight champion Joe Louis' purse from his fight with Jersey Joe Walcott has been vacated by Supreme Court Justice James B. McNally as a result of agreement of the parties, it was disclosed yesterday.

The writ was obtained by Louis' wife, Marva Trotter Barrow, in connection with a suit for $30,000 for "money loaned." It was served on the head of the 20th Century Sporting Club, which promoted the bout, immediately after the fight. New York, N.Y.

The order vacating the attachment was signed as a result of a stipulation entered into with Mrs. Barrow's counsel, which said "in consideration of the sum of $10,000, plus the sum of $341, which includes costs and disbursements paid by the defendant to the plaintiff, the suit against him is settled and discontinued."

The basis of Mrs. Barrow's suit was not disclosed and her counsel declined to comment.

**More on the Joe Louis Fight**

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

New York.

Editor, Daily Worker:

I think that it was an error for you to publish J. M. Shapiro's letter or sarcastic criticism of Lester Rodney, in the Dec. 17, issue, without some note in rebuttal. Mon. 12-22-47

I saw the fight and agreed with Bill Mardo's report of it. I and the people in my section of the Garden were disappointed in Joe Louis, but I am sure that two-thirds of us agreed with the decision. I also saw the moving pictures of the ight and once again my verdict wah for Louis.

Walcott proved himself a brave contestant who could take a lot of punishment. If he were younger, I'd pick him to win in June, but, as it is, I'll choose Louis.

PAUL CROSBIE. Mon. 12-22-47

**Ed. Note:** I must disagree with my good friend Paul Crosbie on the advisability of printing the disparaging letter. Let the guy have his say. What the hell.—Lester Rodney.

## THE BOMBER IN DEFEAT

Advertiser Montgomery, Ala.

As we have had occasion to remark before, Joe Louis is a credit to his race. He seems to be a more admirable champ in defeat than in victory.

The other night Louis took on a second-rater, a fighter who had even retired several times. Louis got the decision, but he was knocked down twice and looked bad. Some think the decision should have gone to Joe Walcott. Wed. 12-17-47

When it was over, the washed-up champ went over to his adversary and said simply, "I'm sorry, Joe." Asked by reporters if he still thought Walcott a second-rater, Louis answered, "I was." Wed. 12-17-47

That is typical of the disarming honesty and good behavior Louis has shown throughout his career. He has helped his race more than the great Negro singer, Paul Robeson, whose communist sympathies are printed on his programs.

51e 1947 Louis (Walcott-- esults)

# PRIZEFIGHTS

## Writer Doesn't Like Fights, But Joins Corps of Advisers to Joe Louis

By HORACE R. CAYTON

Courier

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

THIS is a piece that Wendell Smith should be writing because it's about the Joe Louis fight, and what I know about prize fighting could be carved on the head of a small pin.

Further, I have never liked prize fights and have attended only one in my life. That was when I was a deputy sheriff and could get in free and I wouldn't even take a "freebie." Recently I have read Budd Schulberg's THE HARDER THEY FALL which disgusted me with the game.

Mr. Cayton

This book is a sort of biography of one of those South American characters who invaded the United States and got a number of soft fights until the promoters made him champion. And when I say made him champion I mean just that because according to this book, he couldn't punch a hole in a pillow.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

THEN WHEN THEY got to the big fight—the poor dope didn't even know that he wasn't a fighter—and some second rater whaled the devil out of him, he was started on the road back because he didn't have a dime in any country's money. He had to go back and take a beating from all the set-ups that had taken a dive for him on his way up.

I was further nauseated by the picture "Body and Soul." This film showed the corruption of the fighting game—they did the same thing in "The Hucksters" about radio but, curiously, they never touch on the corruption in Hollywood—and how an East Side "punk" became the world's champion but ended up broke and in deadly fear of the gangsters who were going to kill him for fighting square when he found out that he had been double-crossed by everyone, including his own trainer. Incidentally, Canada Lee has a good role in this picture and I would advise all of you to see it.

Sat. 12-20-47

ALL OF THIS is getting around to saying that I don't care much about prize fighting. One time I had a couple of tickets to a Joe Louis fight and was just about to sell them to my laundry man for twenty dollars when a good friend of mine grabbed them out of my hand and hopped a Yellow Cab to Comiskey Park to see the Brown Bomber pummell Braddock into a bloody mess and gain the championship.

No, my friends, I'm no great shakes for prize fights. I take my sadism out some other way.

But I haven't overlooked Joe Louis as a symbol and he has become a powerful symbol for Negro achievement.

I think it was Richard Wright who first pointed out the political significance of having a Negro world's heavyweight champion. For a downtrodden person to see or to hear one of his own beating the all-powerful white man into a pulp is something, I say to see or to hear because although I didn't take those two twenty dollar-tickets my ear was glued to the radio and I was out in the streets screaming like everyone else just as soon as the referee said that familiar phrase "The winner and still heavyweight champion, JOE LOUIS."

Courier

* * *

WHEN JOE LOUIS took the beating he did from Mr. Jersey Joe I saw grown men with tears in their eyes. An idol had fallen. Somehow the invincibility of at least one Negro had been shattered into a million pieces. Just a little part of most Negroes died with the death of this invincibility. And just a little bit of something died in me.

Sometime ago Bill Nunn wrote a piece questioning how Negroes would take the defeat of Louis. It was a good piece and was printed in a number of magazines. Now Bill should have an answer because Louis came as close to defeat (some say he was defeated) as a man can and still retain the title.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

I'M NOT A SPORTS writer and I claim no knowledge of the fight game. But it seems to me that Joe should do one of two things—first, give Walcott a return match as soon as possible and promise his fighting public that he will retire unless he gets a decisive decision, preferably a knockout. Or second, he should retire immediately.

If he elects to fight, the third thing he should do is to train in a camp with punching bags or their human equivalents and not on a golf course with a niblick.

# And Still Champ

Defender

THE BOXING EXPERTS and the sports writers who watched it from close range in the high-priced ringside seats make much of the fact that Joe Walcott won the most points, and in some other states where victories are chalked up on a basis of points would have won the decision over Joe Louis in their recent clash. But to those of us who must depend upon the radio, newspaper accounts and above all, the moving pictures of the fight as a basis for our judgement, three points stand out to give the nod to the Brown Bomber.

Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 12-20-47

THE FIRST IS that although it was a poor defense by Louis, judged by the high standards he has set for his ring appearances during the ten years he has held the championship, still as a fight it was hectic and action packed. Second, though it can not be denied that Jersey Joe gave good account of himself when Louis caught up with him, never-the-less he spent much of his time "on the bicycle", ducking, dodging and backing away from the champ's lethal right. While this may be good ring strategy for self-preservation, it doesn't give the fight fan out for blood his money's worth. Louis had to walk a mile to land a blow. And third, regardless of how many points may have been piled up by the contender, or of how the fight might have been judged in Illinois, Tiajuana, or Luxemberg, both fighters knew the bout was to be won or lost by the New York state rules. Louis won the most rounds, and won the fight.

JUDGED BY THE moving pictures alone, the verdict was a just one. As the champion, where there was any room for doubt, the decision had to be in his favor. Besides, with the savage clash among the fans over the outcome, both men won one great victory, the assurance of a mollion dollar gate at their next meeting.

*The Point*

# 'Twas Louis' Lucky Night—Dr. Hancock

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

By GORDON B. HANCOCK

Sat. 12-20-47

WHEN Joe Louis backed out of the ring the other night still champion after his terrible tussle with Joe Walcott, he was indeed a lucky man. Down through the years when Joe had smitten some challenger almost unto death, his hand would be lifted and he would be asked for a speech. Joe's always effective speech caught the admiration when he would only say "Another Lucky Night." This saying of Joe's has become a classic of modesty and common sense and has done as much as any other thing to build Joe up in the eyes of the world.

Joe was no gloater but a modest gentleman who looked upon his puglistic prowess as a smile from Lady Luck. Heretofore when Joe said "Another Lucky Night," he said it out of modesty; but when he climbed out of the ring with Walcott, that was the time when he could have said it out of deepest truth. Joe was a lucky man to take his title back to Detroit with him. The split decision was significant.

* * * *

THINK OF JOE LOUIS getting a split decision. This is a moral defeat for him even as it was a moral victory for Walcott. Joe Louis lost the fight but won the decision. Joe has been a great guy and verily deserved the favor that Lady Luck bestowed upon him. I am one of Joe's most ardent fans but my ardor must not becloud my sense of fairness and accord to him a success he did not have.

When Joe climbed into the ring with Joe Walcott, Louis was not ready and it did not take very long to show that he was not ready. Joe has been champion a long time and has had the high life thrust upon him. The greatness of Joe cannot be dimmed even by the fine beating that Joe Walcott gave him.

JOE is still my idol, but broken. It was foolish of Joe's admirers, of whom there are millions, to even suspect that Joe could go on and on knocking out strong men. In fairness to Joe we should have begun to suspect that the old gladiator was slipping. We should have known then as we know too well now that Joe's days are numbered. After all the world ought to know that even Joe Louis is mortal. To me Joe Louis is as great now as he has ever been even though the old scout is failing badly.

LET US GET BACK to the fight. We should not be too enthusiastic and partial towards Joe to give Joe Walcott what he made. Joe Walcott just went in there and took care of Joe in a nice way. It must be remembered that wise ring tactics call for both strength and strategy. Joe has brought such strength to the ring that we have almost dismissed the matter of strategy. Joe Walcott was not under compulsion as some seem to think to stand up there and let Joe murder him. It was his right to use a strategy that gave him the great-

est advantage and Joe the greatest disadvantage.

He did this by keeping on the move or as we are now saying he was running away all the time. But we must not fool ourselves that Joe Walcott was running away for fifteen rounds. Joe Louis's battered eye could not have been brought about by Joe Walcott's running away. The two times that Joe was floored cannot be attributed to Walcott's running. It is true Walcott did some running away but it is also true that he did some mighty effective running Joe's way.

* * * *

**IT IS DIFFICULT** to prove that Walcott spent the 15 rounds running away. If he can beat up a man like that running away, it is mighty fine for Louis that he did run the other way occasionally. Walcott was using strategy when he was running away, but when he ran into Joe he made serious trouble as that ugly looking eye and those two knock-downs will amply demonstrate.

We must remember that points can count the same as knockouts. It was the great Jot Louis who spoiled the boxing fans by utterly destroying his opponents by knockouts. WE have come to think that a fighter is washed up unless he is knocking out somebody in short order. When there can be no knock-outs, the decisions can be determined by points.

Walcott had a perfect right to seek the championship on points as other championships have been won. We must not let our mania for knock-outs becloud our appreciation of points. It is true we do not want a champion who wins running away: it is also true we do not want a champion who cannot floor a man who can floor him, and who cannot black the man's eye who blacked his. **Joe's luckiest night.**

# Earl Conrad

## Yesterday And Today

Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 12-27-47

### That Famous Fight

I am prompted to make a few remarks about the Joe Louis -- Joe Walcott fight of the other evening, and area--sports -- that I usually stay away from. I heard the fight over the radio and found it very exciting, although I must say that listening to all fights, a n d enjoying them makes me wonder sometimes whether I, along with others who enjoy hearing a prizefight, are human yet. But in any case t h e fight was close, J o e apparently wasn't his old self, b u t there was no doubt in my mind he w a s still the aggressor, the C h a m p, and the rightful winner, despite those two knockdowns that didn't seem too impressive to me. A real champ puts up the kind of fight that Joe did, that is, taking the lead and a dubious champ, it seems to me, p l a y s the cautious game, as did Jersey Joe. It might well have been good strategy on Walcott's part to fight defensively as he did so often but it makes him a different kind of fighter than the great world's champion we have known for a decade who boldly gets in there and fights with every contender. But these desultory observations are secondary. What I am concerned about is the fickle public.

Sat. 12-27-47

I heard it widely expressed with long faces and a sorrowing attitude toward the underdog that Jersey Joe had six kids and it might be a good thing if he won the fight and would thereafter be able to take better care of his kids. Very wonderful and fine sentiment. Everybody respects the workingman's struggle. But I wonder if that was the real motivation of these great sports. It is my hunch that if Jersey Joe had approached most of these observers a couple of months ago and if Jersey Joe had asked for a half buck with which to buy a half dozen eggs, one for each of his kids, most of these fans would have turned him down.

### Want to See Bloodshed

No, I think the fight public just likes its damned thrill and they have little respect or understanding of the value of a great legend and a g r e a t guy. I think when they go to these fights they want to see somebody get knocked out, or blood flowing, or a thrilling upset.

What I am trying to really say is that if and when the time comes that Joe Louis takes his beating in the ring, or retires from the ring unbeaten, or whether Jersey Joe licks him this summer in the big out of doors fight they will have, it will be a time, or it should be a time for m o s t people, if the sporting instinct, and the instinct or fair play is anywhere alive to simply say so long and farewell to the greatest fighter in the history of the prize ring and perhaps in the history of the world. It will be a time to sadly say goodby to a great legend, a figure like the mythical John Henry or Paul Runyan or some giant out of an old Greek legend, and for my part I might shed a tear or two when that day comes and boo nobody, neither Joe Louis, nor Joe Walcott, nor the referee nor anyone else.

Like the legend of Atlas, Joe Louis is that rare combination, a human being and a giant rolled into one. And I'll bet on him in the next fight too.

(Copyright, 1947 By The Chicago Defender)

# THROUGH THE YEARS

By Fay Young

Defender Chicago Ill

OUR MAIL has been unusually heavy since the Jersey Joe Walcott vs. Joe Louis fight of Dec. 5. Like many sportwriters who have been following boxing, amateur and professional, for nearly four decades, we went way out on the limb and predicted a short easy victory for the Brown Bomber.

Sat. 12-27-47

It seems that just the opposite happened and this gave Jersey Joe's followers a chance to "rake us over the coals". And were they hot?

But when we figured as did the referee, Ruby Goldstein, that Walcott won and went on to say that we still could not see how one judge marked Walcott ahead on points but gave the bout to Louis on rounds, we fell into a hornet's nest.

Louis' stalwarts swarmed all over us. The mail is still coming in especially since some have seen the pictures.

Our answer to those who disagree with us is that you folk who heard the fight over the radio first agreed and when you saw the pictures you disagreed. 12-27-47

You didn't take into consideration that they have film editors with a pair of sharp shears. The film runs 20 minutes. The fight went 15 rounds of three minutes each with a minute rest between each round. That makes a total of 59 minutes without counting the announcement of the verdict.

Had Walcott been given the verdict, the film editors would have seen that the part showing Walcott in a much more favorable light than what you did see with Louis having won the fight.

Why didn't we jump all over Frank Forbes, the judge who voted for Louis on rounds but marked his card for Walcott on points. Forbes is about the best judge on the New York State Athletic Commission and is as honest as a dollar is round. He put down what he saw and believed. Few know that Forbes is a Negro and is one of our most enthusiastic officials in the Negro National League where he is publicity man for the games played at both the Polo Grounds and Yankee Stadium in New York City. 12-27-47

All those who wrote me have a right to their opinion. But men like Grantland Rice, Wilfred Smith, Harry McNamara, Clair Kelly, Sec Taylor, George Barton and others all couldn't possibly be wrong.

And last but not least we stick by our guns. You can't score a prize fight by listening to the radio or by seeing the pictures with half of it cut out.

We sat in seat 135 in Louis' corner, right behind John Roxborough of Detroit who was in the second round. That placed us row three.

We believe Louis will trim Walcott next June if the Brown Bomber gets in shape. He was not the Louis of old on Dec. 5.

We believe Louis has done more to bring boxing into the high repute it is now held and that he has been a great credit to the game and to the Negro race. Boxing could well afford to give Joe $50,000 a year as long as he lives for the part he has played in being the greatest heavyweight of all time.

However, we don't think he won that fight against Walcott -- neither did Joe's mother who listened to it over the radio and neither did four-fifths of the 19,000 who were stunned at the verdict in the Garden that night.

We pay no attention to book reviewers, hod carriers, butchers and what not who weren't at the fight. We refuse to argue with them.

We write our honest and candid opinion and you will be speaking truthfully if you say you want it no other way -- even if you fail to agree with us at times.

# Wendell Smith's Sports Beat

## Punching the Bag With Joe Louis . . .

CHICAGO—The heavyweight champion of the whole world stepped off the train here early Friday morning and hurried over to the Pershing Hotel for some morning victuals. Billy Rowe, The Courier's famous theatrical editor, was with him, and when we walked in they were standing in the lobby. Courier

The effects of the hard-won Walcott fight are no longer discernable on Louis' puggy face. He looks as good as ever and he still owns the bearing of a champion. As we stood talking with him in the lobby of the hotel, curious people stood off and inspected him as though he were about to be auctioned off for a bargain bid. There are people who seem to think that just because a challenger from Camden, N. J., went the distance and gave Louis a tough fight, he should look different. Pittsburgh, Pa.

But—win, lose or draw—a real champion never changes. Louis has ruled the heavyweight division for ten long years and one close fight is certainly not going to twist or contort his personality. You can tell by the way he walks, talks, laughs and grins that he still treasures and values the role of being "the champ." He's the same Joe Louis he was before that brutal brawl with Walcott.

## The Champ Never Makes Excuses . . .

One reason Louis has so many admirers throughout the world is because he never makes excuses for himself, nor belittles an opponent. He always has a good word for everyone and goes out of his way saying creditable things about other fighters. That's the way he was about Walcott. Sat. 11-27-47

"Jersey Joe's a darn good fighter," he said earnestly. "He gave me one of the toughest fights I ever had. But I never under-estimated him at any time. When they told me the odds were as high as 10 to 1 in my favor, I said then they were too high. I don't think any fighter is 10 to 1 better than another."

We asked the smiling, dapper champion if there was anything wrong with him the night of the fight. Some of the sc-called experts said his performance was an indication that he was at the end of a brilliant trail.

"No," he answered rather slyly, "there wasn't."

We insisted, however, that he wasn't up to par for the course and that he was far from the Joe Louis we saw blasting the pants off sparring partners in training camp.

"Well," he said slowly, "I never like to make excuses. The guy gave me a real tough time of it that night. But I will say I didn't feel right. I'm not taking any credit from Walcott, either. If I'd

been feeling my best he probably would have been just as troublesome."

11-27-47

## His Weight Surprised Him . . .

"What do you mean," we begged, "when you say you weren't feeling right?"

"I think I dried out too long," he confessed.

For the sake of explanation, "drying out" is a procedure fighters go through in an effort to keep their weight down. They do not drink water or any other kind of liquids before an important fight.

"I figured on coming in around 212 or 213," Joe said. "But when they weighed me at noon the day of the fight, I was down to 211. I was actually surprised. I wondered then if I had dried out too long. That night I was convinced of it."

Joe told us that he decided on Wednesday before the fight to start the "drying out" process. From Wednesday night until fight time on Friday he did not touch any liquids.

"I guess I started that too soon," he said. "Usually I quit drinking water on Thursday before the fight. But this time I thought I'd start a day earlier. On Thursday afternoon, when I had my final workout I weighed a little over 214 pounds. When I went into the ring that night to fight Walcott, I weighed 211. In other words, I lost three pounds in less than twenty-four hours. That's taking it off fast, isn't it?"

Just when did the champion realize something was wrong with his condition? When did he know he wasn't himself?

## Stepped Back and Got Floored . . .

"I knew it in the very first round," Joe said. "I cornered Walcott and started trading punches with him. After I threw two punches I knew something was wrong. I didn't have the old zip. I wasn't hitting sharply. When I realized that, I decided to step back and let him out of the corner. My arms were a little weary. When I stepped back, he threw a right hand punch and knocked me down." He laughted and added, "Then I knew something was wrong for sure."

How does a fighter feel when he's "dried out" too much?

"Well, the champion explained, "you feel it mostly in your arms. They get heavy and you don't have the old zip. It doesn't have any effect on your wind or legs, but it does on your arms. It does the same thing to your timing. That's why I missed so many punches and why I was so easy to hit."

Is he going to give Walcott another chance?

"I'll fight anyone my managers say," he answered quickly. "I'll fight Walcott or Lesnevich."

Of the two, who does he think would be the most dangerous?

"Lesnevich," he answered. "I wasn't much of a fighter against Walcott. If Lesnevich had floored me, he probably would have finished it then and there. He never would have let me get up and continue. Walcott knocked me down and when I got up he ran away. I am sure Lesnevich would have torn into me like a tiger."

Does the champion think Walcott will be as difficult the second time?

"I don't think so," he said confidently. "I think I'll be the difficult one the next time . . . in fact, very difficult."

And with that subtle prediction we walked out of the hotel and headed for a movie.

The picture we saw had a very appropriate title. At least we thought so after that final statement, and the champion was the one who suggested we see it together.

The name of the movie was . . . "The Kiss of Death!"

51e. 1947 Louis (Walcott--Results)

# BILLY... Rowe's NOTE BOOK

## JOE IS HUMAN AFTER ALL

NEW YORK—They say this town is without a heart—cold as it is big, and tough as nails . . . So be it, but Friday night, Dec. 5, in the smoke-filled confines of Madison Square Garden, much of that belief was put to the lie by what this observer saw. With a lot of those little lights Edison gave the world, cutting funny patterns across many faces, the emotions of all of them came to grips in vociferous fury . . . Behind it all were the hearts of those same people who make up the human symphony of this huddle of habitation sandwiched between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans . . . Enmeshed with each other were the Joe Louis rooters and the well wishers of "Jersey" Joe Walcott, swelled into incredible numbers by the insatiable desire of the mob to see the underdog triumph . . . According to the crowd, he did just that. Not because he was the better fighter, but because he had the nerve to stand up and prove to the world that the great Louis was a human being after all.

### V—GREATNESS IS LIKE A—V

**What the experts had to say . . . what you heard over the radio . . . what you saw on television; or two seats away from the incandescent baked squared ring was not a champion getting whipped, but the fabulous type of all the writers of pretty words being torn down round by round. A man they had set up akin to immortality was knocked down twice and because he was just a mortal man, his nose bled and his eye became swollen and closed from the weight of punches delivered by a mere man, whom, according to their thinking couldn't be whipped by this "type-made god" unless he was knocked senseless, to grovel on his face on the dust covered canvas . . . Over the vast Garden rose a hue and cry to mingle with the silent sobs of those who through the years had become so close to the brown man up there fighting to ward off the inevitable. "What's happening?" "What's wrong with the champ?" were the pathetic questions mirrored in a thousand eyes.**

### V—FLOWER AND DOES NOT GROW—V

How would you write this story? "Joe Louis Defeated!" How would you form the words? "Joe Louis beaten!" How would you listen to . . . "Winner and new heavyweight champion of the world, Joe Green or anybody"? These are questions that will some day find an answer in the fistic prowess of someone more youthfully equipped than he, but by the gods of Mars, never greater. If Louis decides to carry his hands cocked and shoulders erect within the resin-caked circles of the sporting fight that is America, somebody has got to beat him . . . What a man, that Joe Louis! He has fought to hold his title more than all the heavy-weights put together. He's not just a symbol; a guiding light of a race, but a person who is synonymous with the growth, foundation, the fervent hopes of this gigantic Nation, built from the grass of the plains . . . the green trees of the forest . . . the hills . . . the mountains . . . the streams . . . the rivers and the springs of the wilderness infested with people who knew not the ways of civilization.

### V—SUDDENLY, IT HAS TO BE CULTURED—V

**Like so many others we are attempting to pick out the true story of this man whom some have the nerve to doubt has won his fight. Won his fight? . . . That's a joke worthy of anything that Bob Hope could utter, or Red Skelton would say to make people laugh. We were close enough to the ring to feel the tickle of the flying dust set into motion by the battlers as it played around our nostrils, and saw the brown splotches of blood grow cold up there on wet brown bodies, but we did not see the man from the mosquito State beat the guy who came from Detroit—via the bigotry infested State of Alabama—to try his luck where such things are not so pronounced . . . They talk about "Jersey Joe's" relief status, his kids, his wife. Wonderful, super people all without a doubt. However, you can't help but wonder—have they forgotten so quickly the depth from which Joe Louis came? He, too, was hungry, ragged, a dreamer who reached for the stars, plucked one and held onto it these many years. With it he won a kingdom and never once allowed his royal mantle to drag in the dust of duplicity.**

### V—TO GROW AND BLOOM—V

Perhaps that is why, in the estimation of the fight public, Louis lost his encounter with Walcott here Friday night. No man should become as perfect as Louis was built up by the pretty words of the writers for he became bigger than all the men around him traveling in the same circles, and that wasn't good. What else could they have been crying for Friday night? Of course he was not the fighting machine, a 1937 model, that he was, ten years ago and should not be expected to stand up to those of this atomic age. It's amazing that the experts are surprised that he's gone back and lament the fact that the invincible Joe Louis, the devastating Brown Bomber has lost something and is no longer able to roll over everything he faces. Well, that 1941 Pontiac we have on rubber has its faults, but it gets us there.

**That's a nice line, because it pulls us right out of the emotional stream which caused us to write this week about where they fought instead of where they danced. But things happened here Friday night that were so different from any other night. A silence came over the town that spoke more than words, not because Joe Louis had lost, but mainly because those same people who had built him up over a period of ten years, attempted to destroy that which they had built, in one maddening night. Joe Louis is still the heavyweight champion of the world. History will keep him as fresh with the ages as the evergreen which stands dressed and proud at Christmas time . . . But, so will it remember the night he faced Jersey Joe Walcott and the world discovered that he is human after all. Naw, we don't feel like writing the usual this week and hope you can understand**

**Billy Rowe, 2091—7th Avenue, New York 27, N. Y.**

## Says Walcott Got Rotten Deal

Well, Louis the Great got a nice going over. It was something like his Max Schmeling fight. The newspapers showed Louis' head and feet in the air. I wonder what was holding up the middle? Hot air, I guess.

Louis ought to use a baseball bat if he and Walcott fight again. Yet, I doubt if Louis could hit Walcott, or even a brick house, with any kind of bat. However, they evened things up pretty well. Walcott did all the fighting and got all the points, then to keep Louis from feeling too hurt, they gave him the little old championship and most of the money. A rotten deal for Walcott, I think.

Louisville. JULIUS T. WHITLOCK.

## The Fight Verdict

Joe Louis is the greatest boxing champion in the history of the game. He is still that, following the outcome of the defense of his title in Madison Square Garden, the night of December 5, despite the minority opinion of Ruby Golstein which compelled the champion to retain his title with a "split decision."

It is just such actions by referees as Ruby Golstein's which brought on the reform in boxing rules that provides for two judges to act with the referee.

It will be recalled by boxing fans, that just prior to the fight, that there was quite a hullabaloo raised in the Walcott camp against letting Arthur Donavan, best referee in country, serve although apparently he had been selected by the New York boxing commission. Whether or not the management of the champion conceded to the challenger the privilege of naming the referee, we do not pretend to know. But it can be said of Ruby that he apparently had the very kind of eyesight that Walter Winchell approved. Winchell on his Sunday night broadcast following the fight, made a crude and unjustifiable reference to the eyesight of the two judges who gave the decision to Louis.

The simple fact of the matter is that although the fight was close, Louis won it by the rules of the game. Winchell and other like him apparently do not believe in rules when they interfere with their own personal prejudices, hopes and desires.

It will be noted that there is more objection being manifested toward Louis retaining his title in plain conformance to the rules of the game than there ever was shown back there when Jack Dempsey, the champion, got knocked out of the ring into the laps of the sports writers and unfairly was helped back through the ropes.

Grantland Rice is another sports expert who has eyesight that meets the Winchell standard on par with that of Ruby Goldstein. Mr. Rice, it will be remembered, is the notable who several years ago couldn't see his way clear to put Kenny Washington on his All-American football team. Washington, however, was first choice of the players on every team Kenny played against that year.

# Louis Has One Word on His Mind....REVENGE

Courier (Pittsburgh, Pa.) Sat. 12-27-47

By WENDELL SMITH
(Sports Editor)

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"Walcott's got a right to his opinion," the champion said, "but I don't think he has the right to go around and say that the only reason I'm still champion is because I was protected by two judges and the Twentieth Century Sporting Club."

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# Louis Victor Over Walcott In 15-Round Bout at Garden

## Brown Bomber Keeps World Heavyweight Title on Points After Being Floored Twice in Thrilling Bout Before 18,000 Fans

12-6-47

**By JAMES P. DAWSON**

Joe Louis, world heavyweight champion, successfully defended his title last night when he defeated Jersey Joe Walcott, Camden veteran, on points in a fifteen-round bout at Madison Square Garden. New York Times

A crowd of 18,000 was present with receipts estimated at $230,000. Louis was held at 1 to 8 and 1 to 10 at ringtime. The betting was 6 to 5 that Walcott would not survive five rounds. Louis weighed 211 pounds, Walcott 194½.

Ruby Goldstein was the referee, the first assignment of this magnitude for the former East Side welterweight, who has developed into one of the best referees in boxing. Walcott's camp had protested assignment of Referee Arthur Donovan, but whether it was because of this protest Goldstein received the assignment could not be learned. 12-6-47

The judges were Frank Forbes and Marty Monroe. It was 10:15 on the Garden clock when Announcer Harry Balogh started the introductions of the bout officials and followed with the presentation of the challenger and champion to the crowd in that order. There was a great cheer for Louis. The reception for the champion was ear-splitting. Walcott entered the ring first, Louis was a minute behind him.

The instructions of Referee Goldstein were completed at 10:18 and in a few seconds the battle was on. New York Times

The crowd was stunned to see Louis on the floor for a count of two in the first session. Walcott floored the champion cleanly with a short right to the jaw after a spell of defensive boxing in which the challenger pawed carefully with his left, leading Louis on, and after Louis' thunderous right had grazed Walcott's chin, shaking the Camden Negro.

Louis came up quickly, blazing with rage and leaping after his rival. But Walcott avoided the champion's desperate lunges with the right and left and with a right to the jaw staggered Louis as the crwd roared. Louis repeatedly let fly with terrific rights and lefts for the jaw, but missed them all, while Walcott hooked left to the head and short rights to the head with amazing regularity.

The crowd was thrilled at the spectacle of a challenger who apparently had no fear of the champion. Indeed, Walcott went about his business calmly and precisely.

In the second round Louis tried his hardest to nail Walcott with a disabling or finishing blow, but was wild and missed most of his punches. Walcott was outboxing the champion with accurate use of a left jab, and on no less than three occasions he jarred Louis to his heels with mighty rights to the head.

Twice Louis sent his foe back with stiff, straight lefts to the face, but the champion never got a clean shot at the jaw with his right. Walcott was an elusive target, sticking and stabbing with his left as he retreated, at times half turning contemptuously from the champion, always on the alert.

### Bomber's Jab Is Truer

The Louis jab was sharper, truer in the third. Repeatedly landing stiff and solidly, he sent Walcott back on his heels. The challenger was content to dance out of harm's way. Three times Walcott unlimbered his right for the jaw as he retreated, but it landed high on each occasion and as the round closed, Louis was inviting this weapon in an exchange of rights for the jaw.

The fourth round was not a minute old before Louis was down again under another terrific right to the jaw, this time for a count of seven. The cvrowd again was in an uproar at the spectacle of the titleholder on hands and knees taking a scount. And when he arose, on one of the few accasions ever in the career of the Brown Bomber, he holding his foe in a clinch.

Walcott strove mightily for a knockout, pressing his advantage, but Louis quickly shook off the effects of the blow and, bobbing and weaving his head, kept out of range of Walcott's frantic thrusts. The champion was wild in his return fire for the rest of the round, and Walcott, careful, contented himself with outboxing Louis.

Realizing he was exposing himself to fire by carrying the fight, Louis cautiously waited for Walcott to take the offensive in the fifth. The challenger declined the invitation, and the result was a quiet round in which Louis pressed his foe about the ring, leading occasionally with long lefts to the body, and crossing several rights to the wind and heart as Walcott backed to the ropes.

### Left Forces Retreat

Twice in the sixth Walcott almost fell, leaning backward to avoid Louis' extended left. On another occasion a darting, straight left almost upset the challenger. Near the end of the round, however, Walcott halted his retreat long enough to cross two short rights which landed on the head.

Louis pressed his foe through the seventh, stabbing his left to the face when Walcott couldn't back-pedal fast enough. Walcott stopped this advance once with a short right to the head. But this spurred Louis to a fiery flurry in which he drove both hands to the face. Walcott countered with a right which started a swelling about Louis' left eye, but took a right to the head in return. Near the bell Walcott grazed the jaw with a desperate right.

By pressing the fighting steadily, sticking occasional left jabs to his retreating foe's head whenever he came abreast of him, and working a left hook to the body, Louis accomplished more in the eighth than Walcott, whose efforts were confined to three short right crosses to the head while going away from the champion. None of the blows hurt Louis.

The enraged Louis finally caught up with his foe in the ninth. The spring seemed gone from Walcott's legs. He wasn't as elusive as before. Left jabs sent his back on his heels, and when he thrust with his right for the jaw, Louis banged him to the head with solid rights. A left opened a cut under Walcott's left eye. A right crashed him to the ropes, but he fought back there, pinioned against the strands as the crowd, yelling deafeningly, urged Louis on for the kill it felt was coming. Times New York N.Y.

### Challenger Fights Back

Louis had his foe pinned within striking distance and he belabored Walcott pitilessly with short rights and lefts to the head and face and jaw. But Walcott fought back. He hammered the champion with desperate short-arm rights to the head in an effort to stem the fire. And they slugged away at each other on the ropes in Walcott's corner until the bell.

Walcott was fighting a battle of desperation by the tenth, after a gallant stand against the Brown Bomber. He hooked a left to the head and crossed short rights to the head trying to discourage Louis' steady offensive. The champion, however, plodded on, stabbing with a left jab that at times almost upset Walcott, winging away with short rights, one of which grazed the chin and almost toppled Walcott. He followed with lefts to the body in an attempt to bring Walcott's guard down.

Louis almost tore his foe's head off with a right to the jaw midway of the eleventh round, after pressing Walcott about the ring under a steady stream of stiff left jabs. The challenger came back with a left and right to the head as Louis leaped in. Then, backing away from Louis' menacing left, Walcott closed the round driving a right to the head.

Walcott drew a warning for a back-hand right to the face in the twelfth. In this session the challenger met Louis' pressing attack with solid short left hooks and right crosses to the temple and avoided most of Louis left jabs Midway of the round Louis almost tossed his foe down, shoving Walcott away from a clinch.

Preceding the appearance of champion and challenger on the battle platform, Joe Baksi, contender for Louis' title, Gus Lesnevich, world light-heavyweight champion; Beau Jack, former lightweight champion; Ezzard Charles, Cincinnati Negro; Billy Graham, local lad; Arturo Godoy, of Chile; Ray Robinson, world welterweight titleholder; Olle Tandberg, Swedish heavyweight champion; Tony Pellone, Greenwich Village welterweight, and Ike Williams, lightweight champion of the world, were introduced amid cheers from the crowd. Time

### Balcony Fills Early

New York, N.Y.

The Garden was more than three-quarters filled when the first preliminary was in progress. The balcony, or "shelf," absorbed its capacity early. From the time the gates opened this topmost tier began filling, slowly at first, then with a rush as time came for the boxing to start.

The mezzanine deck and the end arena sections filled next, and, after that, the side arena seats. The ringside section, where the $30 customers were located, followed tradition and was the last to fill. These customers, some of whom paid premiums for their choice seats, were representative.

As is inevitably the custom where a heavyweight title bout is held, leaders of the financial, commercial, industrial, professional and entertainment worlds were to be seen in the forward rows.

To accommodate a larger assemblage of newspaper men than that which covered the outdoor fight in which Louis stowed away Tami Muriello fourteen months ago, the working press seats were extended from two to four rows on the east and west sides of the ring and from one to two rows on the north and south sides. Even with this expansion, the overflow press section on the mezzanine deck had to be utilized. And there were some disgruntled ones who could not be accommodated.

### No Parking Allowed

Elaborate police arrangements had been made to handle the crowd and to regulate vehicular traffic in the immediate vicinity of the Garden. Old patrons of the arena, accustomed to parking their cars west of Ninth Avenue in Forty-Ninth and Fiftieth Streets, found lamp posts placarded with signs reading "emergency, no parking," which were easily distinguishable, even in the murk of the cloudy, overcast night.

This was something new. It was an extension of the Police Department's drive against parking. Members of the police detail explained their instructions were to keep the two streets and Ninth Avenue, between Fiftieth and Forty-Ninth Streets, clear so that a traffic diversion could be put into operation when the fight was over, and those who parked their cars in the late afternoon before the placards were posted faced the prospect of a $15 ticket. Times New York

The preliminary card was abbreviated through two knockouts in the first three bouts scheduled for four rounds each. Another knockout came in the first of the six-round contest, further shortening the supporting card and making a four-round emergency bout necessary.

Sat. 12-6-47

### Hagley Beats Schera

The only one of the first four battles to go its scheduled distance was the opening preliminary in which Dick Hagley, young Maplewood, N. J., heavyweight, pounded out a decision over James Schera, Corona, L. I., for his seventh victory in nine bouts since he started boxing five months ago. Weighing 195 pounds, Hagley won this decision through his superior boxing and sharper hitting. Schera weighed 192½ pounds.

Freddie Ramsey, Fall River, Mass., heavyweight, disposed of Tommy Altieri, New Haven, in 2 minutes and 18 seconds of the first round, Referee Abe Simon halting the battle when Ramsey's thumping blows reduced Altieri to a crimson spectacle with a severe cut about the eyes. Ramsey weighed 185¼ pounds and Altieri 191¼.

Benny Rusk, Pasadena, Tex., followed this with a two-round knockout of Bob Miller, Albany, N. Y., in masterful fashion. A right to the jaw sent Miller down for a nine count after two minutes of action in the second session, and when he arose he was floored and finished, this time with a fusilade of rights and lefts to the head and jaw. He was counted out when the round had gone 2 minutes 37 seconds. Rusk weighed 195¼ and Miller 185¼. Sat. 12-6-47

Bob Garner, one of Louis' sparring partners at Pompton Lakes, N. J., collapsed quickly and completely in his scheduled six-round engagement with Gene Jones, Camden, N. J., heavyweight. Jones finished Garner, a Louisville, Ky., heavyweight, in 2 minutes 39 seconds of the first round, flooring him for a nine-count with a right to the jaw, then rendering him so helpless with a two-fisted barrage that Referee Arthur Donovan stopped the proceedings as Garner collapsed in his arms. Jones weighed 204 and Garner 186½.

### Scores in Six Rounds

Big Bill Weinberg, 6-foot 3-inch giant from Chelsea, Mass., pounded out a decision over Austin Johnson, Atlantic City, in their six-round

clash. Despite the handicap of a severe cut over the left eye sustained in the second round, Weinberg plodded on, dumped his foe on the canvas for a count of two in the fourth round and proceeded to win the three closing sessions by hammering Johnson freely in a spectacular bid for a knockout. Weinberg weighed 212 pounds and Johnson 200½.

Perk Daniels, veteran Chicago Negro, received the decision over Jimmy Bell of Washington, D. C., in the semi-final of six rounds. This was a slow-action battle between two free-swinging, but cumbersome heavyweights. Daniels weighed 210 pounds and Bell 190¼.

## STORY OF THE FIGHT TOLD BLOW BY BLOW

By JOSEPH C. NICHOLS

Shortly before Joe Louis began the defense of his world heavyweight title in a scheduled fifteen-round bout with Jersey Joe Walcott at Madison Square Garden last night, Ruby Goldstein was named to referee the match by the New York State Athletic Commission. Marty Monroe and Frank Forbes were the judges.

Louis weighed 211 pounds and Walcott 194½.

The fight by rounds:

### FIRST ROUND

Walcott brushed a light left to face. They sparred for some seconds before Louis drove a right to the jaw. Walcott shot a short right to the head. Louis missed a right for the head.

Walcott chopped a right to the jaw. Walcott sent another right to the jaw. Walcott floored Louis with a right to the jaw for a count of two. Louis crashed a right to the head. They traded rights to the face. Walcott hooked a right to the head that staggered Louis. Walcott hooked a left to the head.

### SECOND ROUND

Walcott shot a left to the face and retreated. Louis grazed the jaw with a long right. Louis jabbed a left to the face. Walcott sent a right to the jaw. Louis tapped a light left to the nose.

Louis landed a left to the face. Louis sent two more lefts to the face and Walcott returned a right to the face.

### THIRD ROUND

Walcott jabbed a left to the face. Louis hooked a left to the head. They traded lefts to the face. Louis sent two fast lefts to the head.

Louis shot two more lefts to the face. Walcott drove a long right to the temple. Walcott jabbed a right to the face. Louis shot two lefts to the head and a right to the body. Walcott sent a long right to the head. Louis landed a right to the head.

### FOURTH ROUND

Louis sent two fast lefts to the face. Walcott floored Louis with a right to the chin for a count of seven. Walcott missed a right for the head.

Walcott shot a right to the face. Walcott drove a right to the body. Louis landed a right to the face. Louis drove a right to the head. Louis sent a light left to the face at the bell.

### FIFTH ROUND

Walcott tapped a light left to the head and another left to the body. Louis was short with a left to the head. Walcott jabbed a left to the face. Louis flicked a left to the head.

They traded lefts to the head and Walcott shot a right to the jaw. Louis moved forward steadily, sending lefts to the head. Louis dug a left to the body.

### SIXTH ROUND

Louis pawed a left to the face. They exchanged light lefts to the head. Louis missed with a long left for the face. Walcott stuck a left to the face. Walcott drove a hard right to the heart.

Walcott curled his right around Louis' head. Louis sent a sharp left to the face and a right to the back of the head. Walcott chopped a right to the chin.

### SEVENTH ROUND

They traded lefts to the head. Walcott jabbed a left to the face and took a left to the face in return. Louis missed a left for the head. Walcott landed a right on the top of the head and shot another right to the jaw.

They traded lefts to the head. Louis hooked a left to the jaw. Walcott jabbed a left to the face. Walcott grazed the chin just as the bell rang.

### EIGHTH ROUND

Louis sent a right to the head. Walcott hooked a left to the face. Walcott landed a right to the jaw. Louis threw a left to the face and took a right to the chin.

Walcott sent a long right to the head. Louis drove a right to the body and a left to the head. They traded rights to the head. Louis hooked a left to the face.

### NINTH ROUND

Walcott shot two rights to the jaw. Walcott dug a left to the body. Walcott crossed a right to the lead. Louis missed a right for the face. Walcott pounded Louis with a right and a left to the face. Walcott drove several lefts and rights to the head and Louis returned a right to the body.

Walcott shot a right and a left to the head. Louis hooked two hard lefts to the face. Louis drove a right to the jaw. Louis cornered Walcott and drove both hands to the head. They exchanged blows in Walcott's corner. Louis had the better of the exchange.

### TENTH ROUND

Each missed a left to the head. Walcott tapped two lefts to the head. Walcott hooked a left to the jaw. Walcott sent a sharp left hook to the chin. Louis sent a straight left to the face.

Walcott drove a right high to the head. Louis grazed the chin with a right chop.

### ELEVENTH ROUND

Louis shoved a left to the body. Walcott clipped Louis with a right to the jaw. Louis jabbed a left to the face. Walcott took a right to the jaw and retreated.

He returned a right and left to the jaw and Louis fired both hands to the body. Walcott jabbed two lefts to the face and crashed a right to the head.

### TWELFTH ROUND

Louis jabbed a left to the head and Walcott returned the same punch. Louis landed a right to the jaw and Walcott almost slipped returning a left to the head. Walcott ripped a right to the temple.

Louis landed a right and a left to the head. Walcott hooked a left to the head and a left to the body. Walcott stabbed a left to the face. Walcott crossed a right to the jaw and was warned for following with a backhand punch.

### THIRTEENTH ROUND

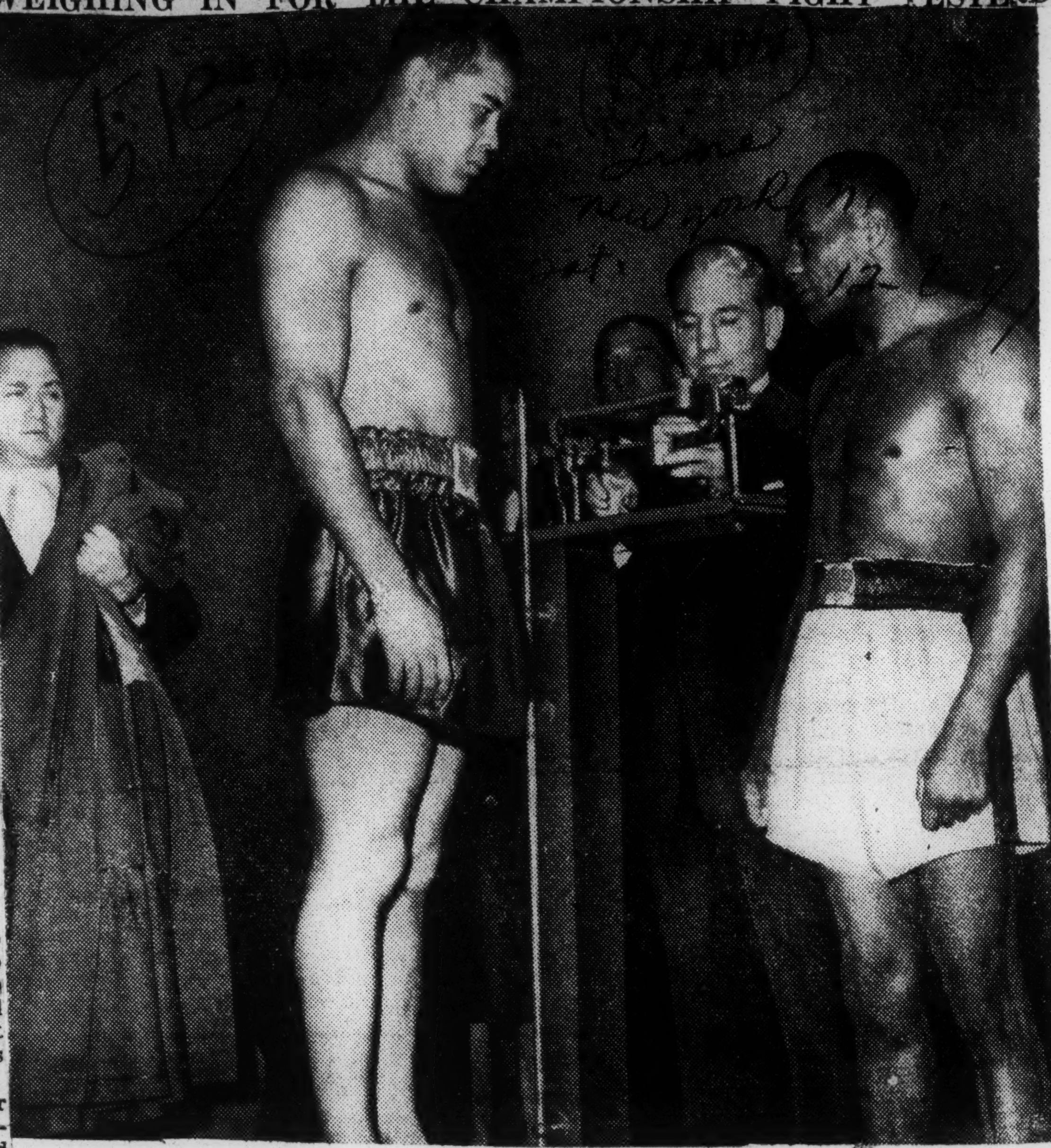
Walcott threw a long right to the jaw. Louis jabbed a left to the face. Louis hooked a left to the face and held. Walcott jabbed several lefts to the face. Walcott shot a long right to the head. Louis hooked two lefts to the jaw.

Walcott slipped to the floor after missing a right, but was up immediately. Walcott outpunched Louis in an exchange at the bell.

### FOURTEENTH ROUND

Louis shot three fast lefts to the face. Walcott landed a left and a right to the head. They traded lefts to the face. Walcott sent two rights to the jaw.

WEIGHING IN FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP FIGHT YESTERDAY



# Off-Springs of Theatrical World Bigger Boon to Sepia Athletes Than to Stage Stars

Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat 12-13-47

**By BILLY ROWE**
**(Theatric al Editor)**

NEW YORK — The hustle and bustle of radio men, television engineers and movie cameramen around a fight ringside, baseball press box or the gridiron 50-yard line is far more pronounced these days than even in Hollywood or in the NBC or RCA television studios. In such a manner the activities of such sports are given to the Nation with several eye-witness effects.

For radio, television and movie men, it was operation Joe Louis-"Jersey" Walcott last Friday. Through these three media most of New York's seven million and some people got an idea of what was going on in Madison Square Garden where a record turnout paid more than $216,000 to see the go on the spot. Via the radio and the movies most of the Nation's one hundred and thirty some million were able to join ears and eyes with them.

Because these facilities in the case of sports have surmounted the barriers of discrimination, they have become great paying factors in the life of colored athletes. When Joe Louis has completed collecting his end of radio, television, and movie rights for his close encounter with the running Walcott from the Mosquito State, his entire take will touch the $100,000 mark. The Jersey battler will also get enough from that direction alone to keep him off relief for the rest of his life and send all his kids to college.

All three of these ventures are highly commercial with nationally-known products doing the paying off. In this case the usual prejudices and discrimination which have kept all but a few Negro performers away from this lucrative channel have been completely disregarded and Joe Louis, Jackie Robinson and Buddy Young are accepted as star performers though out of another profession—sports.

Notwithstanding, football players like Young nor baseball stars like Robinson are not as lucky as fighters like Louis and therefore are not able to share in the take which promoters receive from television, radio and the movies. However, their salaries have a strong bearing on their draw with such audiencies.

**FIRST IN VIDEO**

In his fight with Walcott Friday night Louis became the first boxer to share the television money. Other boxers were given a higher part of the gate and the promoting club took everything else. In the past, Gillette Safty Razor, which also carries the radio account, had a contract with Twentieth Century to also televise the affairs fisticuff for $175,000. The original contract has since expired and a new one signed and sealed at an undisclosed figure.

The Louis-Walcott affair was the third heavyweight battle to be televised since the war. In each case the remote crew of WNBT, the network's New York outlet, used a standard two-camera link giving television owners in Philadelphia, Washington and Schnectady ringside seats.

## Fight Pictures Draw Moola

**Joe Louis' showing against Walcott will net movie millions. The picture made by Pathe and distributed by RKO is already on the screens of the Nation and doing turn-away business. The Garden and the Twentieth Century Sporting Club which paid $310,000 annually so that Bill Corum and Don Dunphy could urge the Nation to feel sharp and be sharp, laid an additional $40,000 on the line every time Joe puts his title on the block. Last Friday night was no exception. A new contract for an undisclosed amount has been signed.**

# Law And Order Prevailed When Judges Gave Bout To Joe Louis

Globe, Nashville, Tenn. Fri. 12-19-47. DEC

## No Justification For Harsh Criticism Heaped On Judge Frank Forbes, Colored Official

With the facts and figures all in from the Louis-Walcott world heavyweight championship bout it is easy to see why Louis was awarded the decision. And it is not hard to understand the motives of the commentators who are bitter over the decision.

Law and order prevailed in awarding the decision to Louis. Mob hysteria and race prejudice exude ever so plainly from the beefing of many of those who are saying "Walcott wuz robbed." These are taking pains to point out for the first time that Judge Forbes, one of the two judges who gave Louis the decision is a colored man. They are insinuating that Judge Forbes arbitrarily gave Louis the decision since Forbes' score card gave Walcott more points than it gave Joe Louis.

Radio listeners to the fight are just about as able as were many of those in Madison Square Garden to pass an opinion on the verdict rendered by the three judges of the fight. Don Dumphy called the shots; Bill Corum, as fair a commentator on sports as one hears over the radio, gave interesting comments on the fight as it progressed and on the decision of the judges. What they said will be better appreciated by intelligent people of the country than what was said the following Sunday night by Dry Land Admiral Winchell, a persistent bellower for TOLERANCE for himself and his, but so given to intolerance that many Americans, several years ago were elated when Congressman Dies, in a radio debate with Winchell, reminded the sensation monger that people who are always demanding tolerance ought always to practice tolerance.

The two judges, Monroe and Forbes were promptly upheld in their decision by the New York State Boxing Commission, which, thanks to Gov. Dewey, also has a colored citizen as one of the members. He is Dr. C. B. Powell, publisher of the Amsterdam News, a splendid and widely circulated weekly newspaper.

The alternative to giving the decision to Champion Joe Louis was to give it to Walcott. Now just suppose the State Boxing Commission had set aside the verdict of the judges and awarded the bout to Walcott. They would have been even more ridiculous than Ruby Goldstein, Winchell or these sports writers whose figures show Walcott won twelve of the 15 rounds. Boxing in New York is operated under rules. Rules are law. Decent citizens believe in obedience to law. Mobsters believing in lynching the law when it interferes with any pet project selfish desire of their own. Winchell might have looked up the rules and tried to understand them before making his criticism of the judges who gave the verdict to Louis.

Rule 6 of the boxing code for New York as published in the press is as follows:

**"At the end of the contest, the boxer winning the greater number of rounds shall be declared the winner. Should it develop that both contestants have an equal number of rounds won, the decision may be given to the one who has the greater number of points."**

Walcott was given 7 rounds to 6 for Louis by Goldstein and two rounds were called even.

Louis was given 8 rounds and Walcott 6, with one even, by Judge Forbes.

Louis was given 9 rounds and Walcott 6 by Judge Monroe.

There has been much "beefing" over the fact that Judge Forbes, the colored official, gave Walcott 12 points to 9 for Louis, although this official gave Louis 8 rounds, gave 6 to Walcott and said one round was even. That is easily explained. Judge Forbes was less liberal in the point advantage he gave Louis than were either Referee Goldstein or Judge Monroe. For example, the third round which all three officials credited to Louis. In that round, Goldstein gave Louis a 2 point advantage and so did Judge Monroe. But Judge Forbes only gave Louis a one-point advantage. Note, too that Judge Forbes did not give Louis as many rounds (8) as did Judge Monroe, who gave the champion 9.

As seen in the above quotation, they settle fights in New York on the basis of ROUNDS won, when one fighter has more rounds than another. But they settle a fight on points only if both fighters win an equal number of rounds.

It can be seen, therefore that racial intolerance is present in all of the effort to make Judge Frank Forbes the "giat" in the "We wuz robbed" complaints of the hypocritical friends of Jersey Joe Walcott.

No better comment on why Walcott lost has been published than that by a reporter for the Afro-American. He said:

**"Walcott ran awav from the championship. He was ahead on all of the officials' cards at the end of the 13th round, but on the advice from his corner, went riding on his bicycle . . . . He forced Louis to chase him all around the roped enclosure for the full six minutes of the final two rounds. . . . . All of the officials gave Louis the last two rounds. They were unanimous on this point."**

Up to the December 5 defense of his title, Champion Joe Louis was the idol of millions of Americans. He is still the idol of all who genuinely admired him for his great sportsmanship and his integrity. As the champion, he had a reason to expect his CHALLENGER to bring the fight to the champion. As it was, Louis had to carry on a far different campaign to that he probably had planned for the 24th defense of his title. He had to try outrunning a guy who believed that a colored fighter who could stay through fifteen rounds with the champion would be awarded the heavyweight crown. Walcott ought to have known that while such a high honor was probably in the offing for Bob Pastor and Billy Conn there was no such idea in the minds of the general public regarding Jersey Joe Walcott. Nor was there such an idea in the champion's mind. Louis was not prepared to fight a hit-and-run colored fighter. Walcott ought to be happy over the thought that Joe Louis, every inch a champion, threw discretion to the winds to make sure the fans got their money's worth out of the battle.

One shudders at what would happen to Jersey Joe Walcott should he get to be the champion and elect to carry on a hit-and-run battle, similar to the one he fought against Joe Louis, with a white challenger. One shudders to think of what would happen to the boxing game as long as a scary fighter like Jersey Joe reigned as champion.

Champion Joe Louis knows right now that he has an engagement coming June, 1948. He knows the man he must fight, as he knew, while in the war, that Billy Conn would be his opponent when the war to give Four Freedoms to everybody in the world would be halted for a breathing spell and some fresh cannon fodder. Maybe there is another beak-busting fight left in the brilliant fists of the greatest champion of All Time. His host of friends, though stunned and humiliated over his failure to dispense with Jersey Joe in orthodox fashion

and RETIRE FROM THE RING, will stick with hm, with the hope and belief that next time, Jersey Joe will go the way of all other challengers who have come back for a second crack at the title.

# In This Corner...

**By Bill Mardo**

### *About That Fight*

57e (Rewrite)

**LIKE MOST MAGNIFICENT** obsessions, the first Louis-Walcott match will heatedly linger in the memory of boxing fans as long as the legend of Billy Conn "growing reckless" against the same Louis when he allegedly had the title wrapped up in 1941. And like that earlier debate, last Friday's will fester and grow beyond all logical proportion and become equally distorted with each passing year. You see, Conn didn't lose his big chance by getting his Irish up, it was simply the accumulation of 12-rounds punishment making him that half-step slower and bringing him into range of Louis' bombsight. Daily Worker

**And Jersey Walcott, magnificent as he was in his chosen strategy, didn't "get robbed" of the decision and title. He lost it on a round-by-round basis and my scorecard read 10 rounds for Louis, 4 to Walcott, and 1 even. The fact of ringside reporters expressing a 3-1 majority for Walcott in an informal poll taken after the decision doesn't particularly impress me either, although I see where such students as Dan Parker, Red Smith, Tom Meany, and Bill Corum gave Louis the vote. It's nice to have allies, because then you can't automaically be told everyone is out of step but Johnny. Neither would I be terribly grieved if I were the only writer in the city with a minority opinion because I was in fact, exactly that last week when I refused to go along with those same unanimous "experts" who ridiculed Walcott's ability and practically demanded legislation to prevent his being in the same ring with Louis.** New York, N.Y.

On Wednesday past I wrote: **"Anyone know why Walcott is 8-1 under Louis? . . . The opinion here is Walcott is a more legitimate challenger than most heavies whom Louis faced. I'll be darned if I can see ridiculing him, as some do, to a greater extent that the Mustos, Paycheks, Simons and Godoys. Jersey Joe's a cute, clever and ringwise old geezer with a deceptive way of punching."**

Despite my respect for Walcott, I picked Louis to kayo him in the third because I felt Walcott's 34-year-old underpinnings wouldn't allow him to elude the champ for too long. But Walcott proved himself the youngest 34-year-old I've ever seen and that includes Joe Louis. The 24-year-old gams of Conn never tapped out a more nimble retreat, and Walcott did it for **three rounds longer.** Jersey Joe surely earned, if any man ever did, the tremendous ovation which greeted him when he left the ring and one hour later as I followed him out of his dressing room. His was a great exhibition of defensive skill but a man can't win the title defensively. Mon. 12-8-47

**DOES THIS MEAN** a fighter can't win on the move? Certainly not. A man can win a fight going backwards, sideways or through the Holland Tunnel providing he **THROWS PUNCHES** while he's moving. But if he takes a face-full of jabs while skirting the four corners and retaliates only occasionally, then obviously he will be outscored. I suggest you see the fight films. Except for the first and fourth rounds when he stopped long enough to throw a short right counter over Louis' lead and dropped him, you'll note Walcott's was purely a defensive strategy. He didn't dare to consistently jab while circling because that would've played into Louis' genius as a counter-puncher. Net result being Louis did all the forcing and the majority of punching, feeble jabs that they were. No question that Walcott threw the more damaging blows, but there were really only two of them—the first and fourth round knockdowns for which Jersey Joe automatically earned those rounds. Yet there were 13 other rounds that had to be fought. Mon 12-8-47

**Yes, a man can win a fight running. Not like Bob Pastor ran, nor Tommy Farr, or Arturo Godoy and his crablike fleeing style—but, let's say, like Ray Robinson ran against LaMotta, not letting Jake get inside him but always peppering him with stunning left jabs and a variety of hooks and crosses all the while he danced out of harm's reach. Surely, there's a real difference between the two.**

And the memory of Pastor and his partners in panic evokes another thought . . . not that Walcott was in any way panicked. To the contrary, he showed marvelous confidence and almost unbelievable disdain. Too bad he didn't parlay those traits into a few more punches. He might be champion this morning . . . or then again he might've gotten clipped. But the point is, everytime a man stays the distance with Louis the old harpoons are dragged out again, the "fable" of Louis' greatness comes up for new expert discussion, and he is once again a **"befuddled, bewildered, blinking"** prizefighter. Joe has spoiled his audience. They expect him to ice everyone, and so do the writers. I'm afraid the fighter never lived who could do that—but nobody has come closer than Louis. That's great enough for me.

**AND EQUALLY ERRONEOUS is the conception of what makes for a "great fighter." Is it someone without any flaws whatsover? Baloney, and I defy anyone to name a great heavyweight who was equally skilled in all departments. Jack Dempsey was a great fighter because of his punching savagery, but he couldn't box to save his soul and presented a wide-open target. Nobody in Jack's day had the punch to take advantage of it. Jack Johnson was a great fighter for his amazing defensive genius, but he lacked the killer instinct necessary to exploit his fine punching ability. Johnson always admitted he never wanted to knock a man out—just outpoint him. In the fight business, such reluctance to go get a guy is considered a real weakness. And so down the line.**

Joe Louis has his weakness. No leg-speed. He'll never show to full advantage against an elusive will o the wisp. Not the first meeting anyway. And Louis isn't at his greatest when he's forced to lead. The most gifted counter-puncher of all time, with deadly accuracy and blinding hand-speed, he's never quite all of that against someone who makes Joe come to him. Someone fast afoot that is, because the other guy can be a fine counter-puncher on his own but if he doesn't have the leg speed to keep away from Joe he's gonna come within reach of the champion regardless of Joe being compelled to lead.

**AND FINALLY, the question of Joe Louis' slipping. No secret. Before the fight Joe insisted he'd slowed up to the point where he can't avoid punches with the old coordination. On a few odd occasions, Walcott highlighted the fact that Louis wasn't kidding anyone. Certainly not himself.**

Maybe now the experts will believe him. But I still wouldn't want to be Walcott next June. As Louis told me in the dressing room, **"History generally repeats itself—and I generally do better the second time."**

# THROUGH THE YEARS

Defender, Chicago Ill.

**By Fay Young**

Sat. 12-20-47

MIAMI, Fla.--While flying here after the Louis vs Jersey Joe Walcott fight of Friday night, there was plenty of time to think. Jersey Joe just made a fool out of Louis and the boxing experts.

57e (Walcott-Louis)

The challenger "might not" have banged Louis to the floor during the training period at Lakewood, N. J., when Louis was getting ready for the first Schmeling bout. Since Louis says Jersey Joe did not we will let it go at that.

12-20-47

But on Friday night, Dec. 6, we watched the determined Arnold Cream, for that is Jersey Joe's right name, set the Brown Bomber on the seat of his pants in the first and fourth rounds and had Jersey Joe's reflexes been a bit sharper he could have followed it up and knocked the champion out.

Our thought as we took off at the National airport in Washington on our way here was that Louis has played a bit too much gold and it hasn't done his leg muscles any good.

Nearing Jacksonville, our mind kept telling us that Manny Seamon is not the trainer that the late Jack Blackburn was---and never will be.

But Louis likes Manny because Louis can do as he pleases. Blackburn was a tough hombre but Louis always followed Jack's instructions except in the first Schmeling fight----after which he wished the hell he had of done so. Sat.

Before the fight was half over we said that there was but one person in Louis corner who could fathom the mistakes of Jersey Joe and that was Larry Amadee who used to help Blackburn with Louis. But how much could Larry advise Louis when Seamon was the chief. There were George Nicholson, who outside of carrying the water in and out of the ring had nothing to do and Marshall Miles who "seemed like an owl on the fence". In other words expressionless.

Well, there ain't no use of us making alibis for Louis. He got one good lesson. Never under-estimate the other fellow.

57e

**AS WALCOTT SCORED KNOCKDOWN IN THE 4TH**—Challenger Jersey Joe Walcott walked to the corner after knocking down Champion Joe Louis in the fourth round of their 15-round heavy-weight championship battle Friday night in Madison Square Garden. Louis took a count of seven before getting up to resume fighting.

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md. Sat. 12-4-47

## The Winner – And Still Heavyweight Champion

Journal & Guide, Norfolk, Va. Sat. 12-13-47

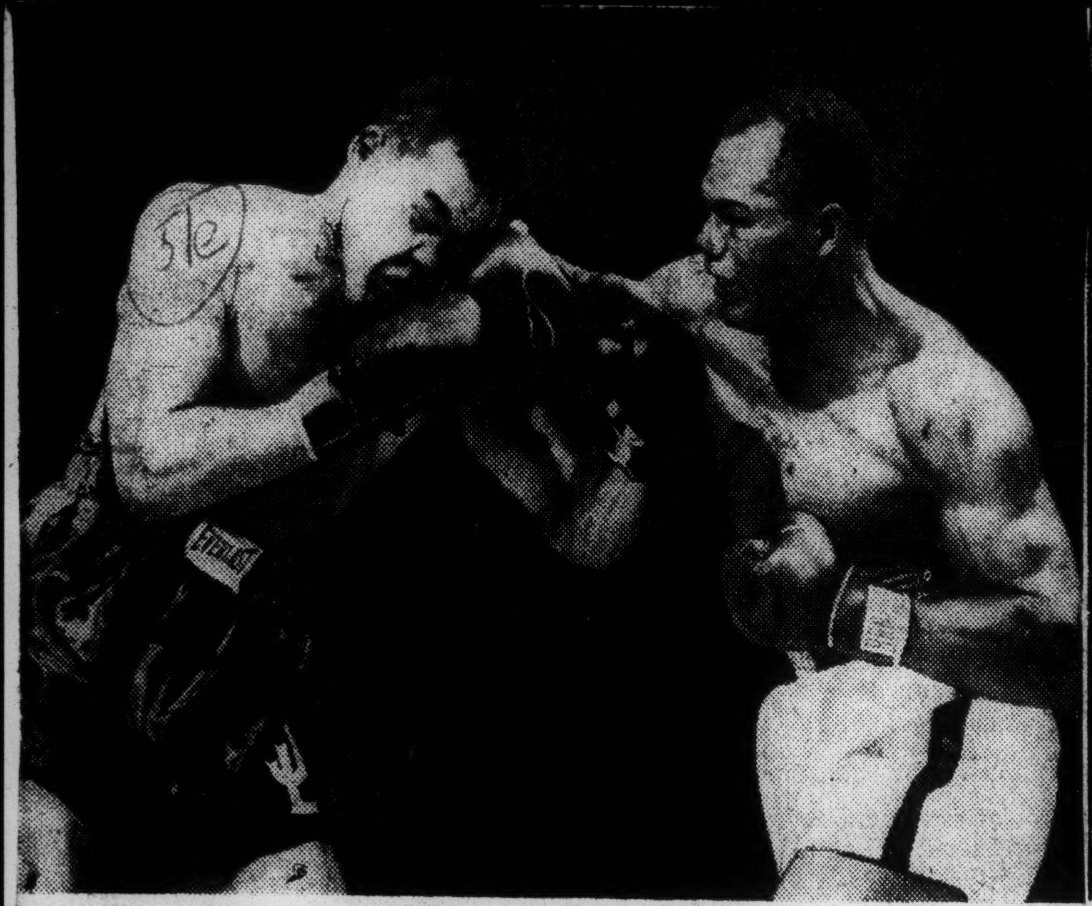
LIKE most sports fans throughout the nation, we were huddled next to our radio Friday night to listen to the JOE LOUIS-JOE WALCOTT heavyweight championship bout. And like many of the fans we were of the opinion that the challenger had conquered the champion.

However, now that the hysteria has subsided and we have had a chance to review the bout calmly and without the very human sentimental prejudice that always favors the underdog, we are of the opinion that the judges made the wisest choice.

Although WALCOTT floored LOUIS twice and won several rounds in the fourteenth and fifteenth rounds he forfeited his right to become champion by running. When WALCOTT ran he admitted that LOUIS was the better man.

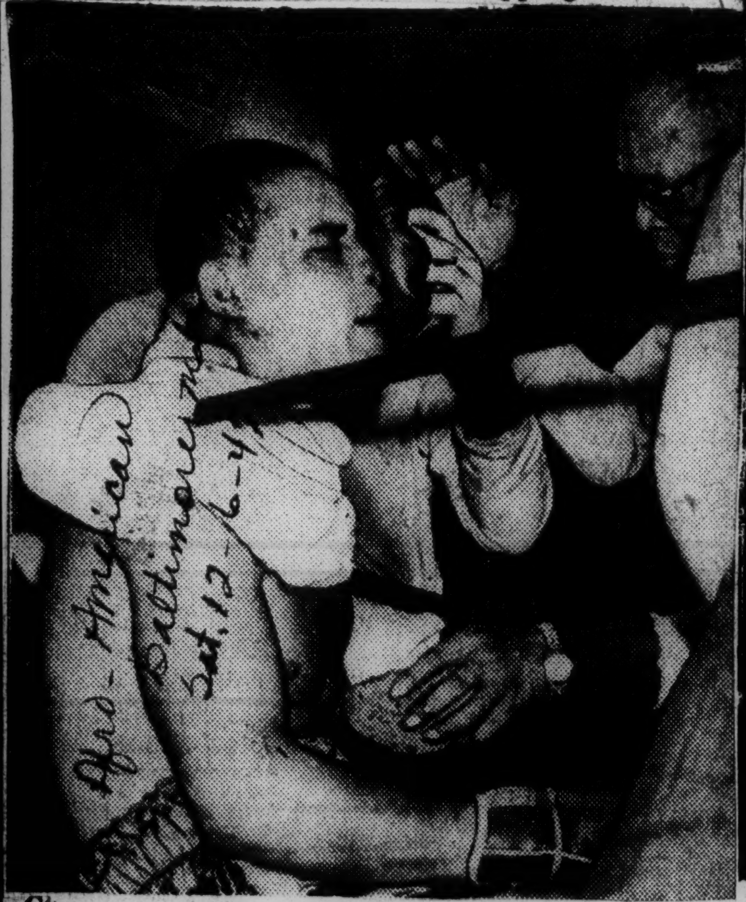
History has proved that it is often wise to pursue a retreat in battle, when the odds are overwhelmingly against you, but wars were never won by constant retreat. And so it was with WALCOTT.

JOE LOUIS has proved himself to be a great champion in all respects. As one writer eloquently wrote of JOE, he is a credit not only to the Negro race, but to the human race. In obtaining the decision over WALCOTT, LOUIS won his twenty-fourth title defense, a record breaking feat in the annals of ringdom, and his demeanor inside and outside of the ring has been above reproach.



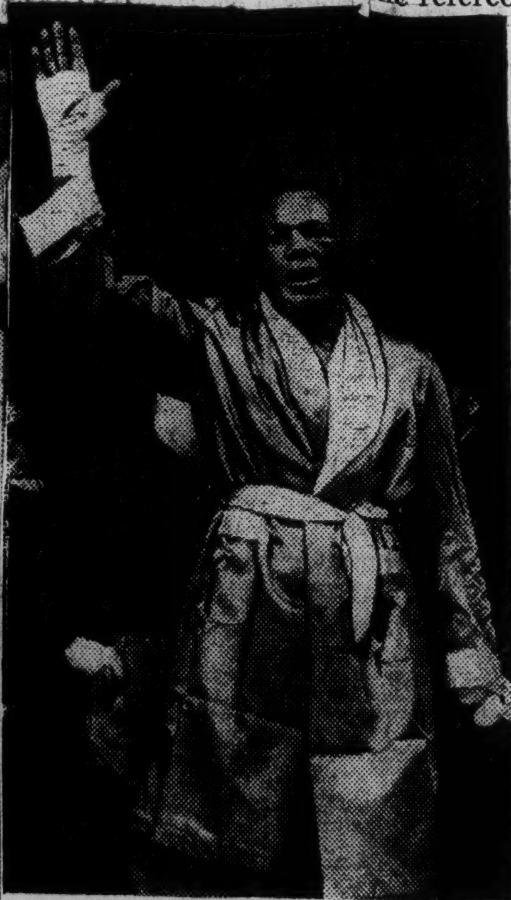
**CLOSED HIS EYE**—Joe Louis takes a right to the head thrown by Jersey Joe Walcott in their 15-round championship bout at Madison Square Garden, New York. Though he retained the heavyweight title by decision, Louis left the ring with his eye closed and his nose dripping blood.

**JERSEY JOE SLIPS**—Challenger Walcott slips to the canvas in the thirteenth round of the title bout with the world's heavyweight boxing championship. He got up immediately for no count. The referee ruled his fall was no knockdown.



Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 12-6-47

Joe ... his f... champ... ...en left eye ... Walcott, ... An ice bag is applied to eye between rounds of who knocked down the ... rounds of the contest.



**THINKS HE'S CHAMP** — Jersey Joe waves to the cheering fans who thought he won, but the final tally gave the fight to Louis.

# *In This Corner...*

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

**By Bill Mardo**

Tue. 12-9-47

12-9-47

### *The Eyes Have It*

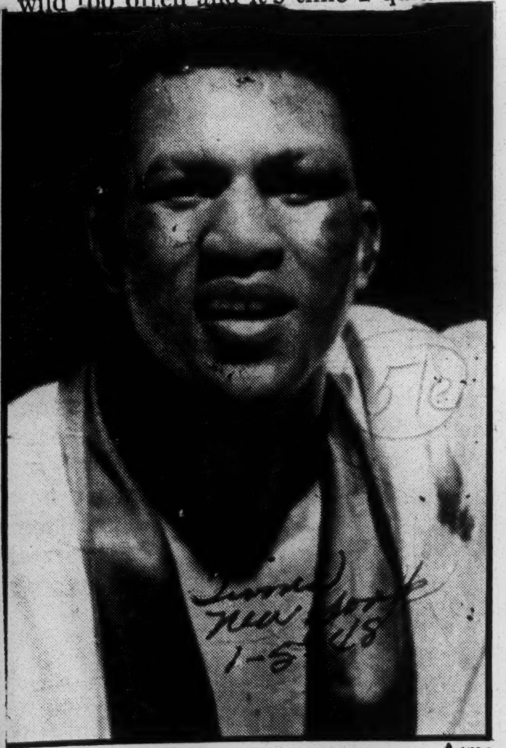
THEY TELL ME the radio version of Louis-Walcott was a horror. One of our reporters caught the fight over television in a local pub. Same time the radio account was going full blast Midway through the fight folks in the bar got so peeved they wanted to chuck the crystal set into an empty beer barrel. Radio kept telling them it was all Walcott—and the television screen showed otherwise. Reminds me of the time dial listeners couldn't believe that Louis licked Tommy Farr. Must be something about the audience hysteria in the Garden when a Louis foe remains erect that creeps into the ether announcer's bones and slants the story all wrong. For those of you who heard only the radio Friday night without benefit of that television equalizer—I again suggest you go to the neighborhood RKO house and see the films. Anxious to put it to a test I did that just 24 hours after I saw the fight. Frankly there was almost a minor demonstration in the theater after it ended. Everyone muttering in amazement. **"Why I think Louis won!"**

51e 1947 Bob Montgomery

## Time to Retire

In ten years of boxing, Bob Montgomery had earned more than $250,000, and put most of it away. He had won 47 of his 103 pro fights by knockouts, had twice been recognized by the New York Commission as world lightweight champion. Last August, Ike Williams knocked him out and took the title away from him. Since then, Montgomery had dropped two decisions.

He had been promised a return bout with Champion Williams, but last week Bob Montgomery thought better of it. At 28 he hung up his boxing gloves—for good, he said. He added, with candor and wisdom: "There's been too many rotten fights the past few months and I've never been connected with any stink in the boxing game. My timing's off, my punches go wild too often and it's time I quit."



Acme

BOB MONTGOMERY

*With candor and wisdom.*

# STAR DROPS MOVE TO REGAIN CROWN

### Montgomery, Beaten Twice in Comeback Trail, Decides to Hang Up Gloves

### GARDEN PLANS SNARLED

### Another Opponent, Probably Bolanos, is Sought for Williams on Feb. 20

By JAMES P. DAWSON

The thinning line of lightweight championship possibilities suffered a major reduction yesterday with the retirement of Bob Montgomery, Philadelphia Negro who formerly was recognized here as world champion.

Announcement of Montgomery's decision to withdraw immediately from boxing, The Associated Press reported, was made in Philadelphia by Promoter Herman Taylor following a conference with Joe Granby, the ex-champion's manager. Dissatisfaction with Montgomery's boxing in his recent bouts led to the conference at which Taylor and Granby impressed upon Montgomery the desirability of retirement.

Montgomery's decision to hang up the gloves comes after eleven years of action as an amateur and professional, and at a time when he is approaching his twenty-ninth birthday. It snarls an already confusing lightweight title picture and, of course, dissipates plans for a return title bout between Ike Williams, reigning champion, and Montgomery.

**Set Back to Feb. 20.**

Originally scheduled for Jan. 16 in Madison Square Garden, the return was set back until Feb. 20 at the request of Williams. The failure of Montgomery to appear before the State Athletic Commission last Tuesday delayed formal signing of contracts for the new date. At the time it was said Montgomery was late in returning from Boston, where, on Monday night, he had been subjected to a beating by Joey Angelo. It was generally suspected here yesterday that Montgomery was considering the idea of retirement when he ignored the appointment with the Commission.

At the offices of the Twentieth Century S.C. it was said plans for Williams' proposed title bout Feb. 20 would be held in abeyance pending the return here of Sol Strauss, who has been directing the club's affairs during the illness of Promoter Mike Jacobs. It is thought an attempt will be made to develop a suitable challenger from among Endique Bolanos, Californian who is recommended by his manager, George Parnassus, as a likely successor to Williams; Gene Burton of Harlem, and Terry Young, husky West Sider.

**Nine Victories in Row**

Of this group Bolanos appears the most eligible. He boasts nine straight victories this year against rugged opposition on the Coast. Parnassus recently notified Eastern promoters of his intention to file an official challenge to Williams through the California State Athletic Commission preliminary to moving East for the purpose of lodging a challenge with the Empire State board.

Montgomery's announcement came as a distinct surprise to officials of the Twentieth Century Club. They professed to have had no advance indication of the Philadelphia's plans.

However, the knockout Montgomery suffered at the hands of Williams in the bout which established an undisputed lightweight champion for the first time in years, reflected an alarming deterioration in the fighting powers of Montgomery. He collapsed in 2 minutes 37 seconds of the sixth round before Williams' blows last Aug. 4 in the Sesqui-Centennial Stadium at Philadelphia, and there were many who saw in that crushing defeat the beginning of the end of Montgomery.

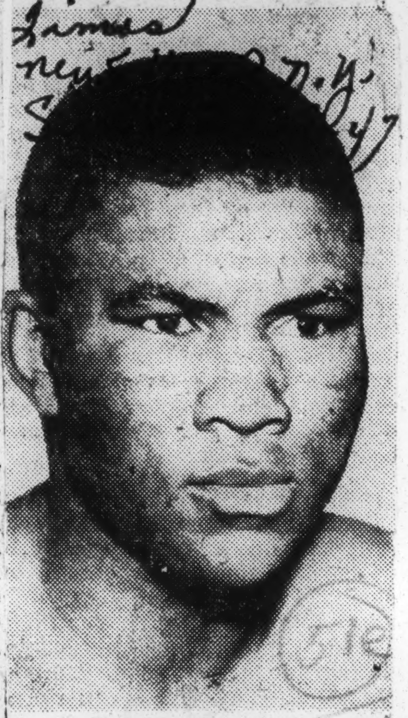
**Beaten by Minelli**

In his first ring engagement after the Williams setback, Montgomery lost a decision to Livio Minelli in Philadelphia. The trouncing at the hands of Angelo was the second setback in Montgomery's attempt to fight his way back to another chance at the title and his third reverse in a row.

Montgomery will always be remembered here as a good fighter, a fine champion, and a credit to boxing in his department in and out of the ring. Four local battles against the fiery little Beau Jack showed Montgomery at his best in the Garden. He won two of these, the first on May 21, 1943 when he won the lightweight title. The following November Beau Jack came back to regain the crown. On March 3, 1944, Montgomery won another fifteen-round decision over Jack, and gained recognition as lightweight champion here, since the title was in dispute at the time.

Their fourth meeting was a ten-round non-title match here Aug. 4, 1944, while Montgomery was in service. Arranged as a magnet in a War Bond campaign, the battle was instrumental in the sale of $36,000,000 in bonds, and Montgomery's only reward, aside from a furlough for training, was a defeat charged against him in the record books.

## RETIRES FROM RING



Bob Montgomery

# RAY BY KAYO

Los Angeles, Calif.

SYRACUSE, N. Y. — Elmer (ex-Violent) Ray, who once entertained the notion of sacrificing himself up to Joe Louis for what there was in it, left'em guessing last Wednesday night when he knocked out Pete Louthis in the second round of a 10-rounder, his second comeback fight. Tribune

The 4000 lazydaisies who turned out expecting and getting little for their dollars, cleared the pavillion in puzzlement, wondering if Louthis was a 24 kt. bum, or if Ray was still some parts of a killer. Sat. 7-12-47

# Elmer Ray Decisions Ezzard Charles In 10

Defender, Chicago Ill. Sat. 8-2-47

NEW YORK—Elmer "Violent" Ray, of Hastings, Fla., and Minneapolis, won a 10-round split decision over Fzzard Charles of Cincinnati here Friday night in Madison Square Garden. Charles, although he put up a good fight, was unable to cope with the hard-hitting, much larger Negro heavyweight who was 20 pounds heavier than the Ohioan.

Ray now wants a crack at Joe Louis for the world heavyweight title which no one but Ray believes he can win. It was announced, before the fight, that the winner of the Charles-Ray go would, if he made a good showing, get a bout with Louis. Ringsiders weren't much impressed with Ray victory.

# RAY GETS VERDICT AGAINST CHARLES

The New York Times N.Y. N.Y.

## Minneapolis Boxer Triumphs Over Ohioan in 10-Round Encounter at Garden

7-26-47

By JOSEPH C. NICHOLS

Elmer (Violent) Ray spoiled the New York debut of Ezzard Charles, highly regarded Cincinnati light-heavyweight, last night when he defeated the Ohioan in the main bout of ten rounds at Madison Square Garden. N.Y. Times

A crowd of 9,000 was present. Charles weighed 174¾, Ray 194½. The referee was Eddie Joseph, the judges Marty Monroe and George Lecron. N.Y. N.Y.

In the first round Ray sent several light left hooks to the head and missed a number of long rights to the same target. Charles counted a left hook to the face but was tied up at close quarters.

In the second Charles used a left hook to good advantage, staggering his foe several times with short head punches. 7-26-47

In the semi-final of six rounds Gino Buonvino, -98½, of Bari, Italy, outpunched Bill Brown, 194, Bronx.

Ruben Jones, 170½, Norfolk, Va., upset Andy Peppe, 177, Greenwich Village, in a closely waged six-round struggle.

In another six-round bout Jack Burke, 164½, Pittsburgh, defeated Don Hassack, 162, Paterson. The four-rounder was won by Henry Holley, 173½, Brooklyn. He stopped Jim Johnson, 173, Harlem, in 1:03 of the first.

In a four-rounder preceding the main bout Joe Mason, 179½, Pittsburgh, outpointed Bobby Jakes, 183, Brooklyn.

# Elmer Ray Wins Split Decision Over Charles

Atlanta Daily World Tues. 8-5-47

NEW YORK — (NNPA) — Elmer "Violent" Ray of Hastings Florida won a non-violent split decision over Ezzard Charles of Cincinnati at Madison Square Garden last Friday night in a fight which gave no indication tha teither fighter belongs in the same ring with champion Joe Louis.

The most violent action of the night was that shown by the 9,000 fans when referee Eddie Joseph declared Ray the winner after Judge Marty Monroe had given Charles eight rounds on his score card. Judge George Lecron sided with the referee. He gave Ray six rounds.

Ray carried the right to Charles and the 191½ pound advantage which the Violent One enjoyed was too much for the Cincinnatian. Ray landed the harder punches but was out boxed by Charles on every turn.

Neither fighter showed a knockout punch although both landed solidly on each other's chin at times. Tues 8-5-47

Ray weighed in at 194½. Charles a light heavy making his first New York debut, weighed 174¾.

The Courier Jour[nal] Louisville Ky.

# Ray Scores Upset Victory

New York, July 25 (U.P.)—Elmer "Violent" Ray, veteran Negro heavyweight of Hastings, Fla., ruined Ezzard Charles' chances of getting a non-title fight with Joe Louis by winning an upset split 10-round decision over the highly-touted Cincinnati Negro tonight.

It is doubtful if Ray will get a shot at Louis, despite tonight's victory, for it is known that champion Joe does not desire to meet Ray in any sort of bout.

Charles, who went into the ring a 9-5 favorite, proved a disappointment to Sol Strauss, acting director of the 20th Century Club, who had hoped the Cincinnati slugger would win in such impressive fashion that he could be tossed into the ring with Louis at the Garden on November 14 for a non-title scrap.

### WANTS TITLE BOUT

Sat. 7-26-47

After the bout, Tommy O'Loughlin—Ray's manager—announced that Ray would demand a title fight with Louis, and that if he didn't get it Ray would hang up his gloves.

O'Loughlin asserted: "When we signed for this fight three months ago, we were assured that the winner would get a title shot at Louis—not a non-title bout with him. And now we want that promised shot at the championship. We will not meet Louis in a non-title fight in November. It must be for the crown—or nothing."

Although Charles had won 15 straight victories since he received his discharge from the Army 18 months ago, he was unable to overcome his heavier and more experienced opponent tonight. And he was unable to score a single knockdown against rugged Ray, who kept marching in, bobbing and weaving and throwing hooks to body and head.

### FINISHED STRONG

Sat. 7-26-47

Although Ray admits to 31 years, which would make him at least five years older than his opponent, it was Ray who finished stronger in the 10th round and thereby apparently wrapped up the bout by a close margin.

Referee Eddie Joseph and Judge George Lecron voted for Ray. Each gave Ray six rounds and Charles four. However, Judge Marty Monroe gave a sharply contrasting ballot of eight rounds for Charles and only two for Ray. The United Press scored five rounds for Ray, four for Charles, and one even. Sat. 7-26-47

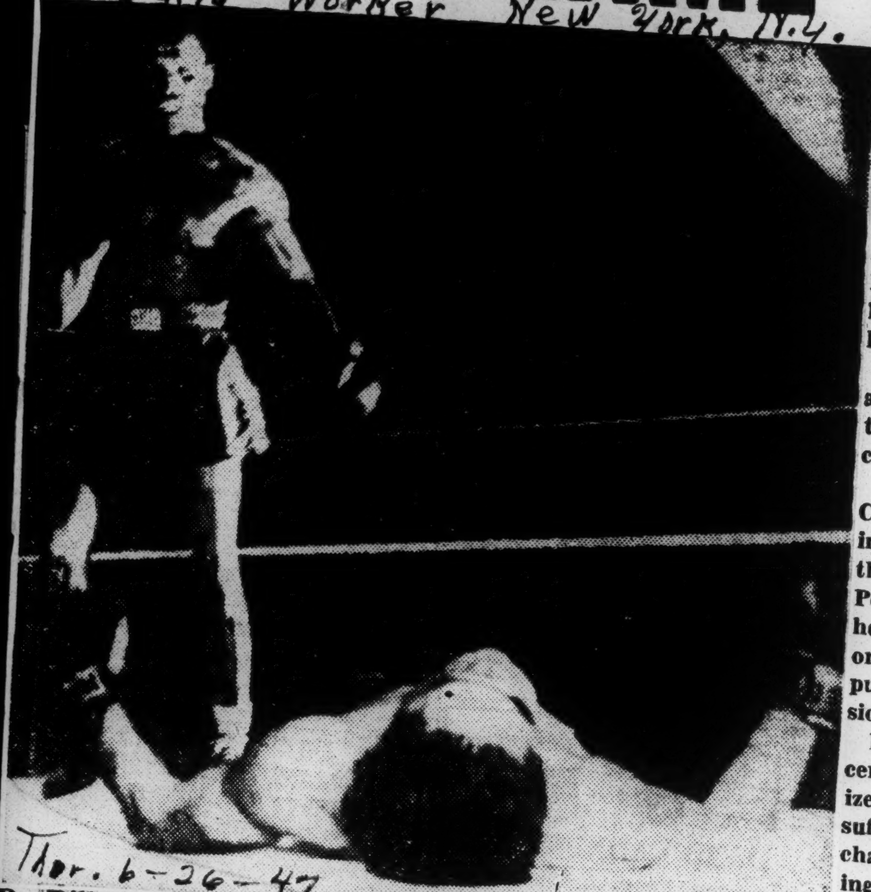
Charley, actually only a light heavyweight, spotted Ray 19¾ pounds, and it seemed that this weight disparity told on the lighter man before the final bell. Chcarles weighed 174¾ pounds—just one-quarter under the light-weight limit. Ray scaled 194½.

51e 1947

Ray "Sugar" Robinson

# THE BLAME FOR DOYLE'S DEATH

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Thur. 6-26-47



Thur. 6-26-47

By Bill Mardo

Jimmy Doyle's death yesterday on a cold hospital cot wasn't the first such ring tragedy. And, sad to say, it won't be the last. Because there are some men safe behind the respectful cloak of "M. D." who allow themselves to be corrupted and controlled by those who run boxing and call the dollar God.

Doyle underwent a delicate brain operation in the early hours of yesterday morning for removal of a blood-clot. A few hours before, Ray Robinson had felled him with a left hook in the eighth round of their title fight at Cleveland. Doyle's head hit the canvas with an ominous thud and he never regained consciousness.

Last March, in that same ring, the 22-year-old kid had also been carted out on a stretcher. His head cracked against the ring-post as one of Artie Levine's heavy-handed punches sent him spinning downwards. The ensuing brain concussion should've permanently prevented Doyle from ever again getting a license to box. Thur. 6-26-47

But no. After a nine-month layoff, the Californian's manager brought him up for a new license. Doyle's first fight after his close brush with death was in Scranton, Pa., last December. So the onus for what finally happened yesterday must rest heaviest on the doctors of the Pennsylvania Athletic Commission. Had they refused Doyle his license then, there's a slim chance that Commissions of other states would've followed suit. Thur. 6-26-47

I am told that Doyle's manager previously had the fighter examined by three specialists to see whether it was safe for him to fight again. I may be doing the manager an injustice, but I've seen enough of that breed to hold little faith in their concern for the kids who take the beatings inside those ropes.

But fight managers have never been known for their humaneness, so I prefer pointing to the strange medical men who are employed in the various states to examine fighters before they enter the ring.

What manner of "examination" allowed a Beau Jack to fight with a seriously damage kneecap some months ago — the result being Beau's knee split in half and sent him to the hospital halfway through his fight with Tony Janiro.

What manner of pre-bout "examination" let a kid named Danny Bartfield fight with cracked knuckles in a Garden ring not too long ago?

Who were the doctors who let a half-blind Luther White fight in the arenas up and down the country? Thur. 6-26-47

And why did the Ohio Athletic Commission ever sanction a Robinson-Doyle bout, regardless of the stupid okays given Doyle in Pennsylvania and wherever else he fought before squaring off with one of the most devastating punchers the welterweight division has ever produced?

It takes only a minimum of decency and common sense to realize that giving a boy who recently suffered a brain concusion the chance to fight again, is like writing his obituary for the time he trades blow with a hard hitter and risks a knockdown.

There was a time when I thought the reactionary American Medical Association was giving medicine its biggest black eye. But the doctors of many State Athletic Commissions are running them a close second.

## Robinson Giving Part of Purse From L.A. Fight To Doyle's Family

Sat. 9-19-47

The Fla. Tattler Jacksonville, Fla.

Los Angeles, Calif.—(CNS) Ray (Sugar) Robinson has announced that he is giving a generous portion of his purse from his fight on September 23rd against Jackie Wilson to the family of the late Jimmy Doyle. The exact amount has not been disclosed yet, but according to Matchmaker Babe McCoy, Wilson would contribute too, as well as McCoy himself. Sugar vs. Wilson will be a non-title match and is scheduled for the Olympic Auditorium.

## W. ROLLO WILSON . . . Ray Robinson, Gentleman

Sat. 11-8-47

PHILADELPHIA—That Ray Robinson has been an outstanding example for others in the boxing game has been illustrated in many ways during his career. He has consistently refused to be pushed around by "the mob"—and other groups—and in spite of nasty sniping by several writers on the daily papers, he made "Ray Robinson, Inc.," a going concern. He is succeeding in business and gaining in stature in that intangible, priceless possession—character. His latest gesture proves my point. Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

In Los Angeles last week, the welterweight champion met with attorneys to set up a trust fund for the mother of Jimmy Doyle, who died in Cleveland shortly after being knocked out by "Sugar." This fund will be established from portions of Ray's purses in several fights until the interest of the fund will allow Mrs. Doyle an income of $50 a month for ten years. And if ten years is not long enough, Ray declared, the fund will be continued indefinitely. So that's why I salute Ray Robinson, gentleman, this week.

## Ray Robinson Absolved Of Blame In Death Of Doyle

Atlanta, Ga. Daily World Sat. 6-28-47

CLEVELAND, Ohio—(SNS)—Coroner Samuel Gerber, Friday, absolved Ray "Sugar" Robinson, world welterweight champion, of all blame in the death of Jimmy Doyle, his opponent in a title fight, held at the Arena, Tuesday night.

Coroner Gerber ruled that Robinson could in no way be blamed for the death of the young California fighter, seventeen hours after he was technically knocked out by the champion. Sat. 6-28-47

**CORONER QUESTIONS FIGHTER'S BROTHER**

In an effort to determined whether Doyle was physically fit when he entered the ring, Coroner Gerber questioned both Paul Doyle, the welterweight's manager, and Edward Delaney, the fighter's brother.

Delaney was quoted as saying that his brother was a "changed man" ever since he suffered a brain injury fifteen months ago in the same ring at the hands of Artie Levine. He told Coroner Gerber that before the Levine fight, Doyle was very active, a great dancer and was always "sparring around" the house. After the fight with Levine, Delaney said, Jimmy would sit for hours reading a book, was always quiet and insisted that he would never fight again.

Doyle's manager, however, insisted that Doyle was in "tip-top" shape when he entered the ring for his big chance against Robinson.

**CORONER STARTS WITH QUIZ OF ROBINSON**

Coroner Gerber opened his investigation with a quiz of Robinson, and the champion's manager George Gainsford was called later. The coroner's questioning led along three major lines: "Was Doyle really fit, and the right opponent for the champion welterweight of the world?"

"Was Doyle's earlier brain injury shown in paralysis of one eyelid or other parts of his body?"

"Was the floor of the ring properly padded?" Sat. 6-28-47

Robinson denied he thought Doyle an unworthy opponent, as well as having taken Doyle's last-year injuries in consideration in mapping his fighting strategy. He maintained that he was fighting for his $25,000 purse, rather than to injure anyone. He also stated that he had been up all night at the hospital.

**GIVES REAL NAME**

In appearing before the coroner for the hearing, Robinson gave his actual name, Walker Smith, and it also came to light that Doyle, whose real name was James J. Delaney, fought under a ring alias. After the questioning, Robinson viewed Doyle's body in the autopsy room.

Friday, Robinson was quoted as saying he would like to appear in a benefit bout for the fighter's parents, at Los Angeles. The fighter's manager and Louis Munalo, a friend of the deceased boxer revealed that the welterweight champion discussed such a bout with them. They said the bout would be held in Los Angeles with Robinson donating his purse.

# "Jimmy Doyle's Death Accidental" ..Coroner

Atlanta, Ga. Daily World

Fri. 7-4-47

CLEVELAND — (NNPA) — The tragic death of Jimmy Doyle, Los Angeles boxer, who died seventeen hours after he had been knocked out by Ray (Sugar) Robinson, welterweight champion, in a title bout at the Cleveland Arena was accidental.

That was the ruling of Coroner Samuel R. Gerber last Monday in a four-page summary of the inquiry into Doyle's death, absolving both Robinson and the Cleveland Boxing Commission and its physicians of all responsibility in the tragedy.

**ROBINSON BLAMELESS**

"Robinson is absolutely blameless and was innocently involved in an unforseen and unfortunate occurrence," the report stated. 'He was unfortunate in being the opposing contestant at the time of Doyle's fatal injuries."

That examinations given Doyle by various physicians were extensive and that no physical incapacitating disabilities could be actually determined were reiterated in the Gerber statement.

"Testimony of Doyle's brother, Edward DeLaney, and from information from several sports writers throughout the country indicate that there was a recognizable change in Doyle's personality after the Levine fight," Gerber said. "However, it was impossible for the examining physicians to find a permanent physical injury. It appears to me that the Cleveland Boxing Commission and Dr. A. F. Hagedorn went to great lengths to determine the physical fitness of Jimmie Doyle." Fri. 7-4-47

**CORONER MAKES**

Dr. Gerber, in his report, recommended state control of boxing in place of local commission rule now in operation in Ohio. The boxing commission in Cleveland is responsible to the mayor.

He suggested a state boxing law "patterned after the laws of New York State."

The Ohio State Legislature in the session that closed in June turned thumbs down on a bill sponsored by Johnny Kilbane, the old featherweight champion, to create a state boxing and athletic commission. Committees of both the House and the Senate let the bill die because they felt that boxing was better supervised by local commissions.

Other recommendations made by Dr. Gerber were:

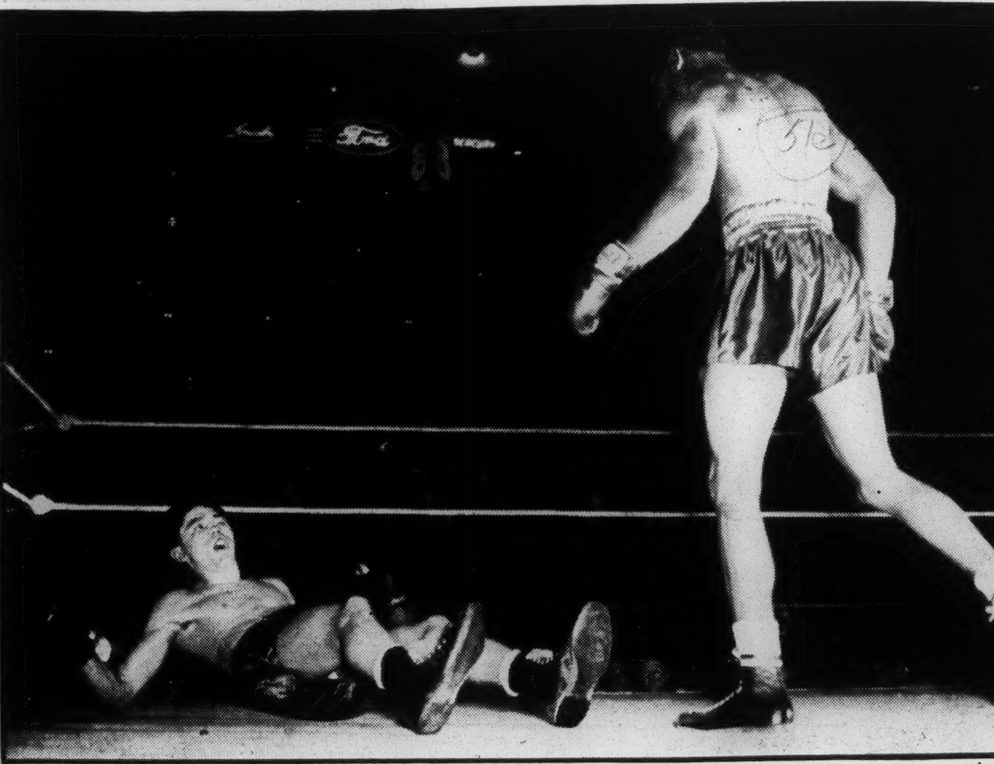
**FIGHTERS who have suffered previous head injury should be barred from the ring.** Fri. 7-4-47

**PHYSICIANS to examine boxers should be appointed by the mayor.**

**LAWS governing matches should be uniform throughout the state.**

**RINGS should afford more protection to fighters in development of new mats, ropes and braces.**

**MEDICAL HISTORY of all previous bouts of fighters it permits to box should be placed on record by the Cleveland Boxing Commission.**



Acme

JIMMY DOYLE (DOWN) & RAY ROBINSON

Times Magazine Chicago, Ill. Mon. 7-7-47

No dancing.

## Jimmy's Last Fight

Under a paralyzing blow to the jaw, Jimmy Doyle's body stiffened, and he fell backwards as though his heels were hinged to the floor. With what was left of instinct he fumbled blindly for the ropes, brushed them with clumsy gloves, and lay still. The bell rang and the round ended as the referee's count reached nine. Jimmy Doyle's handlers went to work with cold water and smelling salts. But Boxer Doyle fought no more.

In the ring's center, Sugar Ray Robinson, making his first defense of the welterweight championship, took the victor's bow, but he did no victor's dance: his opponent lay in a coma, and a doctor was examining him. Later, in his dressing room, Robinson asked: "Is the kid up yet? The punch only traveled six inches, I think." Almost as he spoke stretcher-bearers were taking Jimmy Doyle from Cleveland's Arena. A few fans recalled the words that the Cleveland *Press's* Columnist Franklin Lewis wrote earlier that day about how things would be "after the remains of Jimmy Doyle are toted gently away from the Arena's warm ring this evening." Mon. 7-7-47

**Twice on a Stretcher.** Fifteen months before, Boxer Doyle had been carried from the same ring. He woke up in St. Vincent Charity Hospital and his head hurt; he had been hit a terrific wallop by Brooklyn's Artie Levine. The doctors said he had a brain concussion. Although he was only 21, Doyle had never been quite the same after that. Punch-drunk Jimmy wandered back home to Los Angeles, where his friends called him by his real name—Jimmy Delaney.

His family noticed that Jimmy did not go dancing as he once did, and no longer bounced around the house sparring and roughhousing. Instead he sat for hours reading books, and talked as though he would never again enter a ring. But after nearly nine months of retirement, he began to stir again. He told a friend: "I have to prove I wasn't hurt . . . that I'm a man." Manager Paul Doyle lined up a few bouts, and Jimmy breezed through the first five, against second-raters.

**One More Fight.** Before he stepped into the ring against Sugar Ray, Jimmy promised his father that it would be his last fight—unless he won. He wanted enough money to go into business in California, managing and training other fighters. Last week, 17 hours after Champion Robinson flattened him, 22-year-old Jimmy Doyle died of a cerebral hemorrhage, the first death in a championship fight in modern U.S. boxing history.

Next day at the inquest the Cleveland coroner asked Sugar Ray Robinson if he noticed whether Doyle was in trouble during the fight. Said Sugar Ray, giving him the best answer a professional boxer could: "Getting him in trouble is my business as a boxer and a champion."

## ROBINSON IS BLAMELESS

### Coroner Absolves Champion and Boxing Board in Doyle Death

CLEVELAND, June 30 (U.P.)—Coroner Samuel Gerber today formally absolved Ray (Sugar) Robinson of New York, welterweight champion, and the Cleveland Boxing Commission of any blame in the death of Jimmy Doyle of Los Angeles in a title bout here last Tuesday night. 7-1-47

Gerber's official ruling held that Robinson was "absolutely blameless and was innocently involved in an unforeseen and unfortunate occurrence." Doyle died of severe head injuries seventeen hours after he was knocked out by the champion in the eighth round of their match at the Cleveland Arena. N.Y. Times N.Y. N.Y.

The Coroner's statement also absolved the Boxing Commission and its physicians of any negligence in allowing Doyle to fight, pointing out that the doctors had made complete physical examinations of the fighter and could not have foreseen the ensuing tragedy.

## Sugar Ray Stops Wilson in 7th

Afro-American Baltimore

By LAWRENCE F. LaMAR

LOS ANGELES—(NPB)— In a ring clash here Tuesday night in Olympic Auditorium, Sugar Ray Robinson, welterweight boxing champion of the world, scored a seventh-round TKO over California Jackie Wilson.

A crowd of 8,700 fans, who paid $35,000 were disappointed at the action during the first six rounds. Robinson elected to jab and dance, while Wilson shuffled about throwing a hard right at the head, occasionally.

Wilson furnished whatever thrills there were in the contest, when, on at least three occasions, he managed to find the champion's jaw with hard rights. The action, overshadowed by the frequent clinches, started a chorus of boos during and between the rounds.

After a lecture from Referee Abe Roth following the end of the sixth round, Robinson, evidently angered, came out of his corner fighting mad. After a few preliminary shifts, he hooked a hard left to Wilson's chin for knockdown. Wilson got to his feet but was then punched into insensibility. Roth halted the fray with Wilson hanging on the ropes.

$50 MONTHLY FOR 10 YEARS

## Ray Robinson Sets Up Doyle Mother Benefit

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

LOS ANGELES — A trust fund which will pay her $50 a month for 10 years was set up by Ray (Sugar) Robinson for Mrs. Marie DeLaney, mother of ill-fated Jimmy Doyle, here, last Friday.

Doyle, white, died from injuries sustained during a title bout with the Harlem Dandy at Cleveland last June. 11-8-47

Albert Pearlson, attorney, in whose office the arrangements were made, said the trust account was set up in the Union National Bank for Mrs. DeLaney.

The amount totaled nearly $6,000, including money Robinson earned in a match Aug. 29 at Cleveland with Flashy Sebastian and his seven-round technical knockout here Tuesday over California Jackie Robinson.

Mrs. De Laney was present but Robinson, at his own request, was absent. He was represented by his manager, George Gainsford.

51e 1947

Ray "Sugar" Robinson

# Capital Spotlight

Afro-American

51e

by Louis Lautier

Two sports writers are digging into conditions under which Ray (Sugar) Robinson, welterweight champion, was discharged from the Army after he had a case of "amnesia." Baltimore, Md.

He forgot to catch the boat on which Joe Louis and his entourage sailed to put on exhibition bouts for soldiers in Europe.

Robinson's case, however, differs from that of Rocky Graziano. Ray was not court-martialed and he was not given a dishonorable discharge. Sat. 12-6-47

# Titleholder Stops Taylor in 6th Round

51e

Afro-American

## Result of Contest Never in Doubt; Kayo Is 62nd in Sugar Ray Record

Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 12-27-47

DETROIT, Mich. (NNPA) — Sugar Ray Robinson retained his world welterweight title here last Friday night by scoring a six-round technical knockout over Chuck Taylor, white, of Coalport, Pa., before a record crowd who paid a record gate of $83,522 at Olympia Stadium. 12-27-47

It was Robinson's sixty-second knockout, and the result of the fight was never in doubt.

After the fight had been stopped at the end of two minutes and seven seconds of the sixth round, Taylor's manager took him to Woman's Hospital where a hospital physician reported that Taylor had suffered a mild contusion of the kidney as a result of Sugar Ray's vicious attack.

**Challenger Game**

Taylor was game but that is all that can be said for him.

Sugar Ray, on the other hand, was in perfect condition for his second defense of the year of the title he won in 1946, and gave Taylor an unmerciful beating.

Although Robinson did not knock Taylor down until the sixth, the end was evident from the ordered paid on Wednesday.

## PRINCIPALS IN AMERICAN LEGION FIGHT LAST NIGHT

Flashy Sebastian (left) and Ray Robinson shaking hands after weighing in. Looking on is Eddie Eagan, chairman of the State Athletic Commission.

Associated Press

# ROBINSON RECORDS KNOCKOUT VICTORY

### Champion Stops Sebastian in Non-Title Encounter on Garden Ring Program

N.Y. Times, New York, N.Y. Sat. 8-30-47

By JOSEPH C. NICHOLS

Ray Robinson of Harlem, world welterweight champion, knocked out Flash Sebastian, Filipino boxer, in a non-title contest scheduled for ten rounds at Madison Square Garden last night. The program was held for members of the American Legion.

The bout ended in 1:02 of the first round.

A number of outstanding ring personalities took Bows from the ring before the main bout. Among them were Joe Louis, Gus Lesnevich, Ike Williams, Tommy Loughran, Gene Tunney and Barney Ross. Among the spectators were Gen. Jimmy Doolittle, Governor Dewey and Paul Griffith, national comamnder of the American Legion.

Eddie Eagan, a legionnaire and the chairman of the New York State Athletic Commission, presented to Commander Griffith a huge boxing glove covered with the signatures of hundreds of boxers, past and present.

The referee was Ruby Goldstein and the judges Jim Hagen and Marty Monroe. Robinson weighed 152, Sebastian, 147¼.

**Cranford Stops Cameron**

In the semi-final, scheduled for eight rounds, Jack Cranford of Washington, D. C., was returned the winner by a knockout over Eddie (Red) Cameron, former football star for the University of Miami.

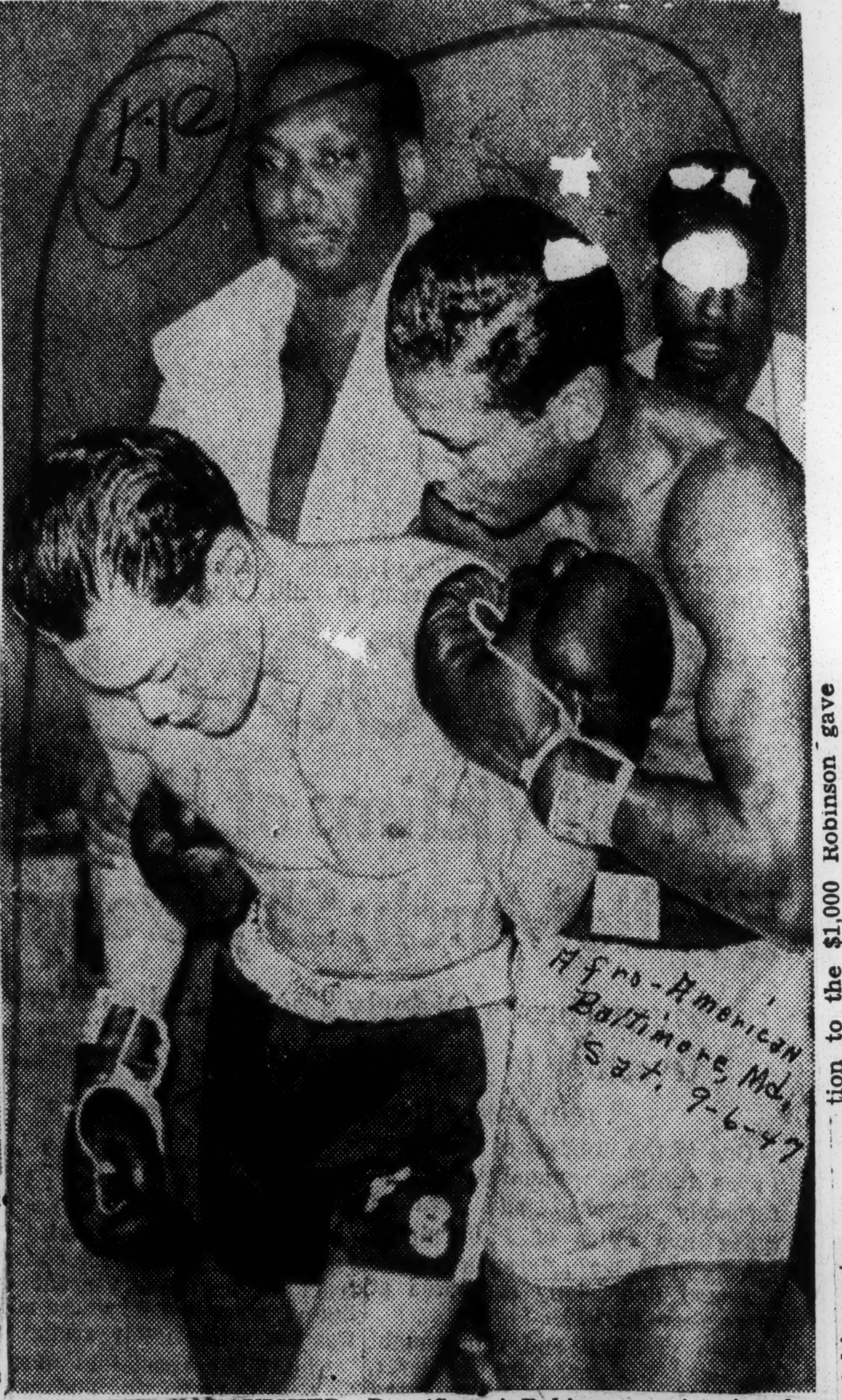
Cranford opened a cut over Cameron's eyes in the first round, and the flow was so persistent that Dr. Vincent A. Nardello of the commission staff stepped into the ring in 1:42 of the second to halt the bout, making Cranford the winner by a knockout.

Cranford weighed 178½, as against 189¾ for Cameron.

In another scheduled eight Joe Saddler of Harlem stopped Miguel Acevedo, Havana. Dr. Nardello ended this fight, too, at the end of the seventh round, when he declared that the Cuban was too badly cut to continue. The winner scaled 127 pounds and the loser 130. Sat. 8-30-47

Jesus Vila, 153, Havana, outslugged Ed Greenwood, 153, Harlem, in a fast four-round battle.

A special bout, conducted under the direction of the A. A. U. brought together two New York City patrolmen, John Metarasso and Aaron Scherrin. Matarasso earned the decision, after five two-minute rounds. The men competed in the 165-pound class.



**AID TO THE VANQUISHED**—Ray (Sugar) Robinson, registering deep concern for the welfare of his latest victim, Flash Sebastian, helps the Filipino welterweight to his corner after a one-round kayo at New York Friday. Fresh in Robinson's memory is the unfortunate death of Jimmy Doyle following a meeting with the Harlemite's deadly punching in Cleveland recently.

# Ray Robinson Knocks Out Sebastian in One Round

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

### Champ Makes Quick Work of Boxer Who Came Halfway Round World

Sat. 9-6-47

NEW YORK (NNPA) — It took Sugar Ray Robinson, world welterweight champ, just two left hand punches and sixty-two seconds Friday night to knock out Flashy Sebastian, Filipino veteran who traveled halfway round the world to meet the champion before 17,000 American Legion fans at Madison Square...

Robinson didn't touch Sebastian with a right hand throught the short fracas but after the fight he told reporters that the left hand blow which knocked out Sebastian was one of the hardest lefts he had ever thrown.

Sebastian was knocked senseless by a left hand punch which caught him flush on the jaw. He fell backwards, his head thumping the canvas with a thud and resting on the outside of the ring. Referee Ruby Goldstein leaned outside the ring to count him out.

**Out Five Minutes**

It was fully five minutes before he recovered and stumbled to his dressing room. Sat. 9-6-47

The fight, promoted exclusively for the Legion, earned $6,500 for Sugar Ray, who, after deducting $1,500 for his training expenses, donated $4,000 to Doyle's family and tossed another $1,000 to Sebastian to help him pay his traveling and training expenses. Sebastian received $3,000 in addition to the $1,000 Robinson gave him.

No admissions were charged. Legionnaires and their friends were admitted free.

Sebastian landed only two punches during the fight and the champ's well groomed hair was not even ruffled when he returned to his dressing room.

# Ray Robinson Turned Down $25,000 Bribe

*Chicago Defender, Chicago, Ill. Sat. 3-8-47*

## Offered High Sum Not To Make Weight For Servo Bout

NEW YORK—Following closely on the heels of the gambling scandal in boxing in which Rocky Graziano admitted attempts by professional gamblers to get him to withdraw from the Rueben Shanks fight which was cancelled, comes the admission by Ray "Sugar" Robinson that he also had been approached by the betting syndicate.

Ray Robinson

Robinson, in his bar and grill at 124th st. and 7th ave., said the gamblers had approached him at Greenwood Lake, N. J., while he was training for the Marty Servo fight.

"You can make $25,000 cash if you don't fight Servo for the championship," Robinson said a group of men told him as he was taking a shower after a hard afternoon's workout. "All you have to do is not make the weight," Robinson said he was told.

"When I told them that I could easily make the weight and that I had been waiting five years for a title shot, the man who was doing the talking got nervous and told me, 'Don't get excited. This is only a business proposition. You can take it or leave it,'" Robinson told reporters.

**Servo Quit Ring**

The Robinson vs. Servo title match was called off when Servo claimed a nose injury suffered in the Graziano fight on March 29 of last year. Rather than fight Robinson, Servo retired from the ring. Robinson became world welterweight champion by defeating Tommy Bell in a 15-round bout in Madison Square Garden on Dec. 20. In that fight Robinson went to the canvas in the second but rallied to floor Bell in the 11th.

Robinson couldn't understand why so much fuss is being raised about the gamblers. "You don't know the guys who approach you with such offers so how are you going to run to the boxing commission and raise a lot of hell about it?" Robinson said. He added, "There is only one way to handle it and that is to tell them you are not interested. That's what I did."

**No Investigation Made**

It was learned that several months after the Robinson vs. Servo championship fight had been called off, Robinson told sport writers about the attempt to bribe him. He was never called by District Attorney Hogan. However, it has been pointed out, the bribe attempt took place in New Jersey where Hogan has no jurisdiction.

Robinson would like to get a shot at Tony Zale, world middleweight champion, although Charley Burley and Holman Williams, the two Negro boxers, have been mentioned along with Jake LaMotta and Marcel Cerdan of France. However, no one has offered him the bout.

The N. Y. Boxing Commission has not acted on Graziano who is scheduled to meet Zale in the Garden in March.

# Sugar Ray Gives $4,000 To Widow Of Jimmy Doyle

*Chicago Defender, Chicago, Ill. Sat. 9-6-47*

NEW YORK—Ray "Sugar" Robinson, world's welterweight champion, took two left hand wallops and 62 seconds of the opening round to knock out Sebastain, the veteran Filipino, before 17,000, most of whom were American Legion visitors, at Madison Square Garden, Friday night, Aug. 29.

Robinson received $6,500 and after deducting $1,500 for his training expense he donated $4,000 to the widow of Jimmy Doyle, Los Angeles fighter, who died after a fight with Robinson in Cleveland. Sebastain received $3,000 for his end and Robinson added $1,000 from his own purse to help Sebastain pay his training expenses.

TheA merican Legion delegates paid no admission. The Gillette Safety Razor Company promoted the show.

Sandy Sandler, New York sepia featherweight, became a title contender by stopping Miguel Acevedo, Cuban champion, in the seventh round of the semi-windup.

# One Minute, Two Blows Spell "Finis" For Robinson's Foe

*Journal & Guide, Norfolk, Va.*

NEW YORK—The saga of Joe Louis never mussing his hair in a fight was copied here by welterweight champion "Sugar" Ray Robinson, who entered the ring Friday night and stayed there long enough to connect with two left jabs, and put Flashy Sebastian on ice after one minute, two seconds of the opening round of a scheduled 10 round fist-fest.

Sebastian, a leading Filipino veteran pugilist traveled halfway around the world to tie with "The Harlem Honey-boy" in the American Legion-sponsored fight at Madison Square Garden.

Robinson didn't touch him with a right hand, but after the fight told reporters that the left hand blow which knocked out Sebastian was one of the hardest lefts he had ever thrown. *Sat 9-6-47*

Sebastian was knocked senseless by the punch which caught him flush on the jaw. He fell backwards, his head thumping the canvas with a thud and resting on the outside of the ring. Referee Ruby Goldstein leaned outside the ring to count him out.

It was fully five minutes before he recovered and stumbled to his dressing room.

Robinson, remembering his Cleveland fight in which Jimmy Doyle died after he had knocked him senseless, showed great anxiety for Sebastian, and after the count went over and watched Sebastian's handlers draw him to his corner.

Later in his dressing room, he said: "You bet I was worried about Sebastian. I didn't want anything like what happened to Doyle to happen again. One more of those and I would be through as a fighter." *Sat. 9-6-47*

**DOYLE FAMILY AIDED**

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Sebastian landed only two punches during the fight.

# Jersey Joe Remembers Time He Hurt Champion

*Columbia Record, Columbia, S.C. Tues. 9-16-47*

By OSCAR FRALEY

NEW YORK, Sept. 16—(UP)—His mother's phophecy and the memory of a day 11 years ago when he staggered a young challenger named Joe Louis provided a pair of flimsy consolations today for Jersey Joe Walcott.

Jersey Joe meets Jolton' Joe at Madison Square Garden on December 5 for the heavyweight championship of the world. Such a fistic future naturally calls for a searching of the soul.

"I remember when I was fightin' for $15, my mother used to tell me that if I got a chance I'd be champion of the world," Walcott recalled bravely as the title fight was announced. "She's dead now, but I still remember her saying it."

Walcott recalled, too, Albeit a bit reluctantly in view of the fact that there's no sense defying the lightning, that back in 1936 he "almost" kayoed Louis as the latter prepared for the first Schmeling fight.

"The first day I was in Louis' camp as a sparring partner they told me I boxed just the style they wanted," Jersey Joe revealed softly. "The next day I knocked him to his knees with a right hand punch. So Jack Blackburn fired me, telling me I didn't box the style they wanted."

"But I've got six children," he grinned. "So it's easier to take mental strain instead of financial strain."

His smiles were few, however, as he contemplated the cerebral contortions which he'll go through as December 5 approaches. Walcott never has gone 15 rounds and the consensus was that he wouldn't have to this time.

Jersey Joe, who at no time during the signing appeared to be overjoyed, slouched back in a chair and told one reporter that his father had come from the British West Indies. *Tues. 9-16-47*

"His name ultimately was changed to Cream," Walcott said. "That's my real name, Arnold Raymond Cream. But before he changed it, my father's name was 'Crime.'"

"It sure is," said one reporter, thinking of the annihilation ahead.

Sol Strauss, acting matchmaker for the Garden, attempted to remove the funeral atmosphere then by proclaiming jovially:

"Well, Joe, they can welcome you back to Camden, N. J., with brass bands now that you're going to fight Louis."

"Golly," somebody said, "isn't it nice to anonymous."

Straightening the crease in his gray, pin-stripe trousers, Walcott looked uncomfortable when asked whether he thought Louis was as fast as in former years.

"Well, it's only my opinion, you know," he cautioned, "But I don't think he's quite as fast."

The challenger then relapsed into moody silence, apparently figuring the percentages of being able to stay away from even a "slow" Joe Louis for 15 rounds.

Most of the 23 challengers the Brown Bomber has dusted off in defending his crown were gay and full of bravado when they signed to meet the champ. Not so Jersey Joe. At an admitted 33, and probably 36 or 38 years of age, he realizes that this is the last big visit to the cashier's cage. *Tues. 9-16-47*

"Yeh, I quit boxing several times," Walcott said. "I didn't seem to be getting anywhere and I had a large family to feed. I guess I did most everything—carried the hod, lugged ice, stevedored and worked on construction jobs and in a shipyard."

Walcott asserted that fighting caused more "mental strain" than those other jobs, particularly fighting a man like Louis.

# Ray Robinson Sends Taylor To Hospital On Technical Kayo

*News, Birmingham, Ala.*

DETROIT, Dec. 20—(AP)—Welterweight King Ray Robinson's second challenger—Chunky Chick Taylor—rested in a hospital today, a sixth-round victim of Sugar Ray's still very lethal blows.

Robinson's technical knockout of the cocky Coalport (Pa.) aspirant before 16,975 fans here last night cleared away any fears that he might be slipping. *Sat. 12-20-47*

From the outset the result seemed obvious and every time the champion moved in on Taylor the crowd expected the "kill."

But Taylor, always on the aggressive, cut short every Robinson rally through three rounds. In the fourth Sugar Ray connected with a barrage of rights and lefts to the head and body that left Taylor groggy. The fifth round was much the same but the plucky challenger weathered it.

Taylor came out fast for the sixth and was met with another flurry of left and right jabs and uppercuts. One looping left sent Taylor sprawling to the canvas. He got to his feet at the count of nine but he might as well have stayed down.

Robinson, lightning-fast and hitting hard, floored Taylor again a few seconds later. Taylor's manager, Jack Laken, threw in the towel as the count continued, and Referee Johnny Weber stopped the fight as the 10-count was sounded. Only 53 seconds remained in the round. *Sat. 12-20-47*

Taylor was taken in a police ambulance to Woman's Hospital, where a physician said he was suffering a possible contusion of the left kidney. He was ordered to spend the night there pending an X-ray examination.

Robinson's first challenger, Jimmy Doyle, of Los Angeles, died after an eighth-round TKO in Cleveland last June.

Sugar Ray's height and reach gave him a distinct advantage, and he met every Taylor offensive with a devastating and versatile counter-offensive. At 146¼ he also held a pound and a half edge in weight. Although Robinson is only 26, some ring observers thought his age, combined with the fact that he had somewhat of a struggle to meet the 147-pound limit, might handicap him against his 24-year-old opponent.

But Robinson's showing against his unknown challenger was convincing to most of the customers who contributed to a record Olympia Stadium gros gate of $83,522 largely on the possibility that a great champion might be dethroned.

51e 1947 Ray "Sugar" Robinson

# Ray Robinson Given 30 Day Suspension And Fined $500

51e Daily World Atlanta World

Tues. 2-18-47

NEW YORK CITY—(SNS)—The New York State Athletic Commission suspended Ray Robinson, world welterweight boxing champion for 30 days and fined him $500 Monday for failure to report an offer of $25,000 not to make the weight for his title match for a championship fight with Marty Servo last September which never materialized.

The welterweight king and his manager George Gainford appeared before the Boxing Commission, Friday, and gave their version of what happened at Robinson's training camp last August. Following the two-hour hearing, the commissioners decided to wait until Monday to announce their decision.

**DENIES OFFER**

"Sugar" Ray denied that the offer was made to him at all. He pointed out that a visitor,—short, stocky and white came to his training camp and in his presence, offered to bet George Gainsford, his manager, $25,000 that he could not make the weight (147 pounds) for his bout with Servo.

The only evidence which resulted in Robinson being summoned to appear before the Commission was an article in "The New York Post,," on January 30, quoting Robinson as saying that he had been approached with a $25,000 offer not to make the weight for the Servo bout.

The original comment on the subject, however, appeared in a byline story by Lester Bromberg, boxing writer of "The World Telegram," on December 17.

Robinson not only denied the bribe offer but threatened legal action. He said his lawyer has asked "The Post" for a retraction, threatening legal steps.

"Are you suing Bromberg and 'The World Telegram'?" asked Eagan.

"No," replied Gainford. "It was good publicity for the Robinson-Bell fight."

By beating Tommy Bell on Dec. 20 Robinson was acclaimed welterweight champion.

"Those damn fighters will say anything," was Gainford's parting comment. 2-18-47

The Robinson-Gainford testimony suggested that if the commission wanted another whipping boy, why, George would manfully bare his back for the twenty lashes.

# Robinson Repeats His Bribe Offer

The Courier Journal 51e Louisville, Ky.

## Move Seen As Sympathy Gesture To Graziano, Who'll Be Heard Today

Fri. 1-31-47

New York, Jan. 30 (UP)—As Rocky Graziano prepared to explain to the New York State Athletic Commission tomorrow his failure to report a $100,000 bribe offer, an old story about the attempted bribery of Welterweight Champion Ray "Sugar" Robinson last September was revived today.

Robinson repeated to reporters the fact that a stranger had offered him $25,000 if he would withdraw from the scheduled September 6 title fight at Yankee Stadium with Marty Servo, who then was welter champ. Robinson, at that time, was training at his own camp in Greenwood Lake, N. Y.

Robinson

Sugar Ray said he rejected the offer, explaining to the stranger that he had been gunning for the title shot for five years. The Servo-Robinson bout was later cancelled because of Servo's nose injuries. Shortly afterwards Servo retired. Robinson won the vacant title by beating Tommy Bell on December 20.

The newly crowned 147-pound champion said he had not reported the bribe offer to anyone because he thought the would-be briber was merely a "jerk". In mid-december, however, he gave the story to New York newspapermen and it was published. It caused practically no comment. Neither the district attorney's office nor the boxing commission had noticed the December story, spokesmen said today.

**ADMITS BRIBE**

Fri. 1-31-47

Robinson's revival of the story was interpreted by some boxing men as a guesture of sympathy toward Graziano, the middleweight challenger, who faces possible indefinite suspension at tomorrow's commission hearing.

Rocky has admitted to District Attorney Frank S. Hogan that he was offered a bribe of $100,000 while training at Stillman's Gymnasium for the bout with Cowboy Ruben Shank, which was scheduled for Madison Square Gardens on December 27, but which was cancelled later.

Those admissions made Graziano technically guilty of violating Rule 64 of the commission's code. Rule 64 requires a New York-licensed boxer to report immediately to the commission any offer of a bribe.

The current two-man commission—Chairman Eddie Eagan and Dr. Clilan Powell, Harlem Negro publisher — were exepected by most boxing men to suspend Graziano indefintely tomorrow.

Such penalty would automatically cancel his return title fight with Tony Zale, middleweight champion, scheduled for March 21 at Madison Square Garden And it would cause Marcel Cerdan of Morocco or some other contender to be substituted against Zale. Fri. 1-31-47

It also would toss into the laps of National Boxing Association officials the "hot chestnut"—whether to permit Graziano to fight in N.B.A. territory despite his banishment from rings of the Empire State, which is not an N.B.A. member.

Rocky's defense apparently will have little affect upon the penalty for he had explained many times that he did not report the bribe offers because he thought them "only a joke" and because he didn't want to start needless trouble. The district attorney's reply to this defense was simple.

He called Graziano a liar.

Meanwhile, the D.A.'s office announced today that it was seeking a "big-time gambler" who is believed to have knowledge of the Graziano bribe attempts. It also disclosed that Hogan is particularly interested in exposing under-cover boxing managers who have criminal records. The Courier Journal

* * *

**Brill Reinstated**

Manny Brill, Louisville fight manager, yesteday was reinstated by Frank J. Humbert, Kentucky Athletic Board of Control Commissioner.

Brill had been fined $15 and suspended during a fight show at the Armory when he delayed a bout in whcih Don Rocco, one of his fighetrs, participated.

Hubert yesterday reduced the fine to $5 and revoked the suspension after a hearing in which he found that Brill had delayed the fight because of "a misunderstanding" rather than wilfully taking action "against the best interest of the sport."

# Robinson Hits 'Post' Story, Denies Offer

51e Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

**Ray Robinson, world welterweight champion, yesterday told the State Athletic Commission that newspaper stories of his receiving a $25,000 bribe offer were completely false.**

**Speaking calmly and clearly, Robinson described the actual event that took place in his Greenwood Lakes training camp last August as simply the offer of a $25,000 bet made by some unidentified spectator to Robinson's manager, George Gainford. The bet, on whether Robby could lose five pounds in time for the scheduled fight with Marty Servo on September 6th, was turned down and that was the end of it, Robinson said.** Sat.

**The Commission, which recently banned Rocky Graziano from New York's rings for "failure to report"** a bribe offer which Graziano refused, adjourned the hearing till 1 p.m. Monday and promised a decision at that session. 2-15-47

Assistant District Attorney Powers quoted at length from a story in the New York Post of January 30 in which Robinson was supposed to have admitted receiving and It developed that the "Post" story was practically a word for **turning down a $25,000 offer not to** make the weight for the Servo fight.

Revealing that he was suing the Post in lieu of a retraction, Robinson said, **"That never happened. Some reporter came to my place and asked my opinions of the Graziano affair and if I had anything to say about a story that appeared in the World Telegram last December. It old them if they saw it they saw it and that's all."**

word rewrite job on a "World Telegram" article by Lester Bromberg which appeared back on December 6th. This article, also brought into evidence by Powers and also denied by Robinson, appeared before the Graziano case broke and elicited little attention at the time.

**"The Post man must have taken that story and copied it, making believe I had said the same thing to him," Ray said, "and in the first place the Telegram story is also inaccurate."**

**Bromberg was also called on the stand, and while Robinson shook his head in denial, claimed Ray had told him of a direct $25,000 offer. At this point Commissioner Eddie Eagan adjourned the meeting until Monday.** 2-15-47

**Robinson and his manager George Gainford detailed the incident as** having occurred after a training session for the Servo bout when about 30 or 40 people were crowded in the dressing room. N.Y.

**"This man asked Gainford what I weighed," explained Ray, "and then said he'd bet $25,000 I couldn't make the weight in time for the Servo fight."** (The welterweight limit is 147 and Robinson weighed 152 at the time.)

"Did you hear this man make the offer?" asked Powers.

**"Sure I did," said Robinson. "Everybody in the place did. He wasn't whispering. When I heard that I got sore and said, Buddy, I've waited five years for this chance at the title and if you think I won't make the weight you're crazy. I'll make it if I have to come in on one leg."**

"At that the guy said don't get excited, it was just a betting proposition and that was the end of it."

"Did you know him?", Powers asked. Daily Worker

"No, I didn't know him then and I wouldn't know him now," Robinson responded. "There were a lot of people around, the way there always are at those training camps."

"Did you suggest that the offer should be reported?" asked Powers.

**Smiling patiently, Robinson repeated, "There was no offer to report. I just finished telling you the guy just wanted to bet with Gainford on my making the weight."**

**Trying to shake the boxer, Powers then asked, "Didn't you consider it unusual for someone to bet $25,000 that you couldn't make the weight?"**

**"Unusual?", said Robinson with a touch of bitterness, "If you're talking about unusual I thought it very unusual I hadn't been given a chance at the championship in five years."**

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*51e Daily World Atlanta World*

*Tues. 2-18-47*

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*The Courier Journal*

*51e Louisville, Ky.*

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Such penalty would automatically cancel his return title fight with Tony Zale, middleweight champion, scheduled for March 21 at Madison Square Garden. And it would cause Marcel Cerdan of Morocco or some other contender to be substituted against Zale.

*Fri. 1-31-47*

It also would toss into the laps of National Boxing Association officials the "hot chestnut"—whether to permit Graziano to fight in N.B.A. territory despite his banishment from rings of the Empire State, which is not an N.B.A. member.

Rocky's defense apparently will have little affect upon the penalty for he had explained many times that he did not report the bribe offers because he thought them "only a joke" and because he didn't want to start needless trouble. The district attorney's reply to this defense was simple. He called Graziano a liar.

Meanwhile, the D.A.'s office announced today that it was seeking a "big-time gambler" who is believed to have knowledge of the Graziano bribe attempts. It also disclosed that Hogan is particularly interested in exposing under-cover boxing managers who have criminal records.

*The Courier Journal*

* * *

**Brill Reinstated**

Manny Brill, Louisville fight manager, yesteday was reinstated by Frank J. Humbert, Kentucky Athletic Board of Contral Commissioner.

Brill had been fined $15 and suspended during a fight show at the Armory when he delayed a bout in whcih Don Rocco, one of his fighetrs, participated.

Hubert yesterday reduced the fine to $5 and revoked the suspension after a hearing in which he found that Brill had delayed the fight because of "a misunderstanding" rather than wilfully taking action "against the best interest of the sport."

# Robinson Hits 'Post' Story, Denies Offer

*51e Daily Worker*

*New York, N.Y.*

Ray Robinson, world welterweight champion, yesterday told the State Athletic Commission that newspaper stories of his receiving a $25,000 bribe offer were completely false.

**Speaking calmly and clearly, Robinson described the actual event that took place in his Greenwood Lakes training camp last August as simply the offer of a $25,000 bet made by some unidentified spectator to Robinson's manager, George Gainford. The bet, on whether Robby could lose five pounds in time for the scheduled fight with Marty Servo on September 6th, was turned down and that was the end of it, Robinson said.**

*Sat.*

The Commission, which recently banned Rocky Graziano from New York's rings for "failure to report" a bribe offer which Graziano refused, adjourned the hearing till 1 p.m. Monday and promised a decision at that session.

*2-15-47*

Assistant District Attorney Powers quoted at length from a story in the New York Post of January 30 in which Robinson was supposed to have admitted receiving and turning down a $25,000 bribe offer ...

It developed that the "Post" story was practically a word for word rewrite job on a "World Telegram" article by Lester Bromberg which appeared back on December 6th. This article, also brought into evidence by Powers and also denied by Robinson, appeared before the Graziano case broke and elicited little attention at the time.

**"The Post man must have taken that story and copied it, making believe I had said the same thing to him," Ray said, "and in the first place the Telegram story is also inaccurate."**

Bromberg was also called on the stand, and while Robinson shook his head in denial, claimed Ray had told him of a direct $25,000 offer. At this point Commissioner Eddie Eagan adjourned the meeting until Monday.

*2-15-47*

Robinson and his manager George Gainford detailed the incident as having occurred after a training session for the Servo bout when about 30 or 40 people were crowded in the dressing room.

*N.Y.*

**"This man asked Gainford what I weighed," explained Ray, "and then said he'd bet $25,000 I couldn't make the weight in time for the Servo fight."** (The welterweight limit is 147 and Robinson weighed 152 at the time.)

"Did you hear this man make the offer?" asked Powers.

**"Sure I did," said Robinson. "Everybody in the place did. He wasn't whispering. When I heard that I got sore and said, Buddy, I've waited five years for this chance at the title and if you think I won't make the weight you're crazy. I'll make it if I have to come in on one leg."**

"At that the guy said don't get excited, it was just a betting proposition and that was the end of it."

"Did you know him?", Powers asked.

*Daily Worker*

"No, I didn't know him then and I wouldn't know him now," Robinson responded. "There were a lot of people around, the way there always are at those training camps."

"Did you suggest that the offer should be reported?" asked Powers.

**Smiling patiently, Robinson repeated, "There was no offer to report. I just finished telling you the guy just wanted to bet with Gainford on my making the weight."**

Trying to shake the boxer, Powers then asked, "Didn't you consider it unusual for someone to bet $25,000 that you couldn't make the weight?"

**"Unusual?", said Robinson with a touch of bitterness, "If you're talking about unusual I thought it very unusual I hadn't been given a chance at the championship in five years!"**

# Robinson Wins 'Boo' Decision

N. Y. New York, N. Y.

By John McNulty

Ray Robinson stole a decision from Georgie Abrams in an over-the-weight 10-round battle in Madison Square Garden Friday. The decision was booed for 20 seconds by an almost capacity crowd.

Robinson's great day has passed. He no longer is the fast, heavy-hitting, and lean brown tiger he was a year ago. Against Abrams he fought a disgracefully careless and sometimes vicious bout. Referee Eddie Joseph was forced to take away the seventh and eighth rounds from Robinson for repeated low blows. Sun. 5-18-47

Hardly a round passed but what "Sugar Ray"—who now might soon be called "Vinegar Ray"—halted momentarily to apologize to Abrams for illegally low wallops. Most of the times when he apologized, he had done no serious harm. But in the seventh, when he really hit Abrams painfully below the belt, there was no attempt at apology. Nor was there any excuse in the eighth round for the messy manner in which Robinson disregarded the rules of the game.

The official scoring for the bout—which met with an echoing roar of disapproval from the crowd—was:

Referee Eddie Josephs, six rounds for Robinson, four for Abrams; Judge Marty Monroe, six rounds for Abrams, four for Robinson.

Not that it matters, but this onlooker scored it five for Abrams, four for Robinson, and the sixth round even.

***Robinson Goes Back; Old Snap Is Gone***

Robinson, 150½, who gave Abrams 11¼ pounds, was not punished by Abrams' weight advantage. Robinson is simply not the man he was, although he is now only 28 years old, or five years younger than Joe Louis. The old snap has gone, and it was he who was cut up, but only slightly, instead of Abrams, a notoriously easy bleeder. Robinson's right eye was cut in the very first round.

The Robinson attack for this fight was to come in low, spread out like a long, rangy, greyhound, and try to hammer the body from a distance, before going for the head. It was not a successful procedure, for it resulted in too many low blows, for which apologies are not sufficient recompense.

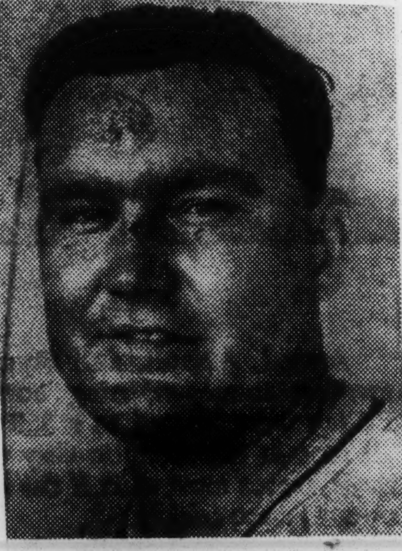
Abrams, never any slouch as a boxer, was much better than he appeared in his battle with Marcel Cerdan, the Frenchman who shaded him in the Garden a few months ago.

For every body blow landed by Robinson, Abrams scored with raps to the head. At one point in the ninth round, he had Robinson momentarily groggy against the ropes. Ray came back, however, in the last minute of the round, but not sufficiently to take the frame.

***Crowd of 15,064 Pays $80,772 Gate***

It was the first fight in Madison Square Garden in eight weeks, and a crowd of 15,064 paid $80,772 into the coffers of the still ailing Mike Jacobs. Sun. 5-18-47

The exhibition against Abrams, while technically a victory for Robinson, certainly does not warrant his wading into the middleweight division for any more fights. It may be that his increasing weight will force him out of the welterweights. He'll be no match for Zale, or Cerdan, in his present bad form.



Big Johnny Mize, Giant first sacker, set a National League record Friday, scoring in 16 consecutive games. The old mark was 15, held by Max Carey, Pirates, 1924, and Freddie Lindstrom, Giants, 1927.

# Added Lbs. Making Ray a Middleweight

Weight has become a considerable factor in the ring career of Ray Robinson, world welterweight champion. There was a time when it was necessary for Robinson to "build up" in order to pass as a genuine welterweight. **Today his natural weight is in excess of 150 pounds and he is presented with a real problem when it becomes necessary to scale down to the 147 pound mark required in welter title events.**

**When he knocked out Eddie Finazzo in Kansas City a month ago Sugar Ray came in at 154 pounds highest he has ever been. In the fight before that, when he kayoed Freddie Wilson in three rounds at Akron, Ohio, he scaled 153.**

**The matter of weight also confronts Sugar Ray in most of his non-title matches since he is invariably paired with a full-fledged middleweight who sometimes outweighs Robinson by as much as ten pounds.**

**Such will be the situation, for example, when Robinson squares off against Georgie Abrams, high-ranking middleweight, in a scheduled ten-round bout at Madison Square Garden on Friday night.**

**For that contest Robinson plans to come in at about 151 pounds which he now figures is his best fighting poundage. Abrams, who generally fights at around 160 pounds, expects that to be the mark he will hit for Friday's encounter. That means Abrams will have a weight advantage of at least nine pounds.**

**But it is certainly no new thing for Robinson to "give away" weight to an opponent. He was outweighed in his several fights with Jack LaMotta, once by as much as 12¾ pounds. And way back earlier in his career he was yielding eight and ten pounds to such fighters as Fritzie Zivic.**

**And if he can decisively defeat Abrams he'll be right in the middle of the middleweight title picture along with Cerdan, La Motta and company, weight or no weight.**

# Robinson Wins Over Abrams On Split Vote

Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

Sun. 5-18-47

NEW YORK, May 17—(UP)—Amidst thunderous booing, Ray (Sugar) Robinson, world welterweight champion, was awarded an unpopular, split 10-round decision Friday night over Georgie Abrams, semi-bald middleweight veteran from Brooklyn, after their non-title brawl before an estimated 16,000 at Madison Square Garden.

It was perhaps the worst showing that Sugar Ray, a streamlined brownskinned speedster, ever made. He seemed tired in the late going, and he missed with many punches in most of the rounds.

Robinson left the ring bleeding from a deep gash at the corner of his right eye and from a slight gash on his left brow. Abrams was bleeding from cuts on his right brow and lower lip. Sun. 5-18-47

There were no knockdowns, but they fell to the canvas—with Abrams on top—in the second round. The aggressive, compact Abrams staggered Robinson with hard straight rights to the head twice in the sixth round and once in the ninth. On each of those occasions, the groggy welter champ held on to the rope with his right hand and threatened to punch with his left. Some thought the ring-wise Negro was holding the rope to keep from falling.

# Robinson Tells Story of 'Bet'

P. M. Sun. 3-16-47

The State Athletic Commission heard Ray Robinson, world welterweight champion deny Friday that he received an offer of $25,000 not to make the division weight, then postponed its decision until Monday. New York, N. Y.

George Gainsford, Robinson's manager, and the boxer told the commission the reported offer actually was "a sporting bet" that a man whom neither knew made to them in Robinson's training camp at Greenwood Lake, N. J. Robinson was training to meet Marty Servo for the title. The fight later was cancelled because of a Servo injury.

Both said that the man offered them the bet after a workout and that he addressed his remarks toward Gainsford and not toward the fighter. Sun. 3-16-47

Gainsford testified that the man said "I'll bet you $25,000 you don't make the weight." Robinson was five pounds over the 147-pound limit at the time.

"I told the fellow we had waited five years for this championship shot and we would go into the ring under 147 pounds if we had to go in on one leg," Gainsford said.

# "Sugar" Ray Robinson In Record Kayo

Atlanta Daily World Atlanta, Ga. Sat. 8-30-47

In New York's Madison Square

In Nek York's Madison Square Garden last night, thousands of cheering legionnaires witnessed, what is reported to be a Garden record, the 1:02 (one minute; two seconds) knockout of Flash Sebastian, highly-touted fighter from Honolulu, by Ray "Sugar" Robinson, world's welterweight champion.

Sebastian has been heralded as "Champion of the Orient," and came to the States with an enviable ring record. He had been seen in action on the west coast, but last night's fight was his "debut" to eastern fans, and the "wise boys' (some of them) thought the "Sugar" was in for a tough night. Sat 8-30-47

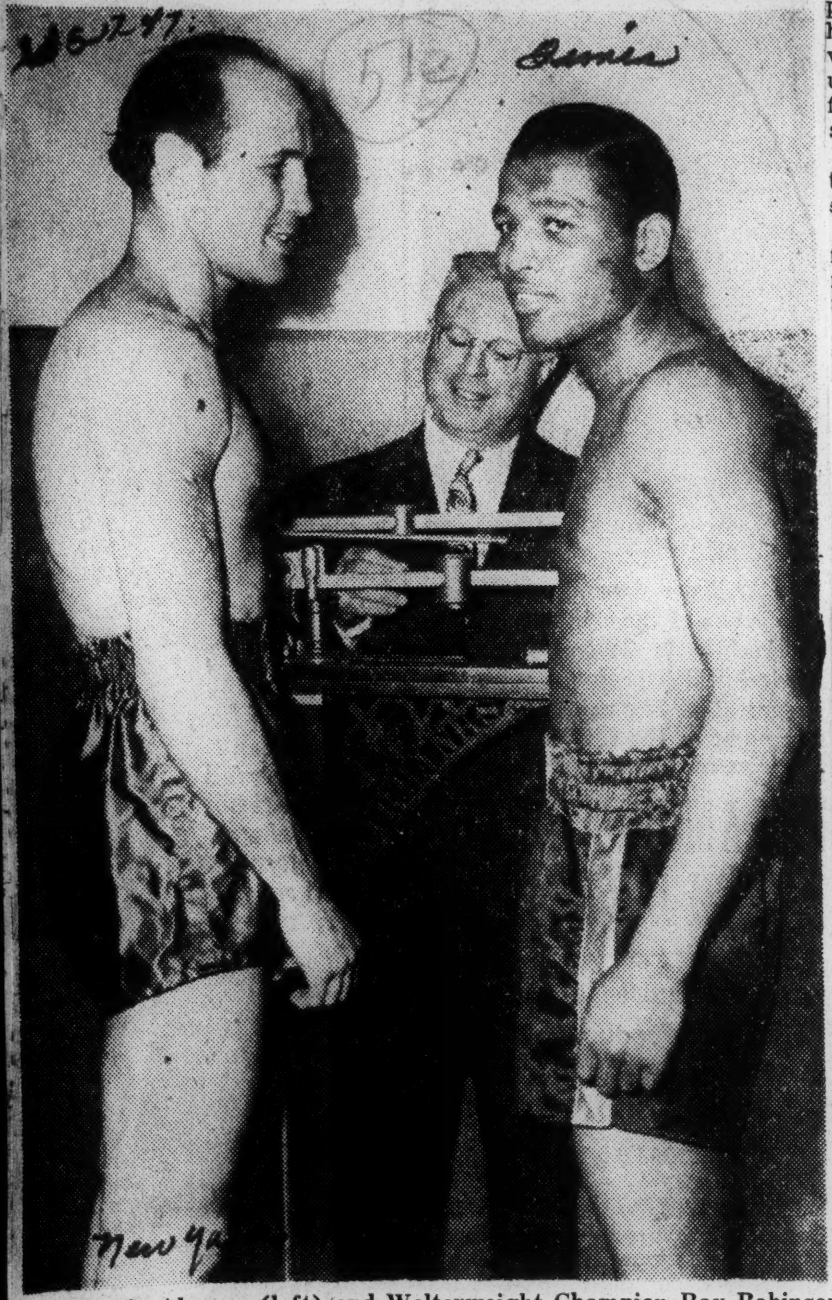
There were those who thought the champ was still nervous over the death of Jimmie Doyle, the fighter who died following a ring battle with Ray in Cleveland, recently, and that he, Ray, would be jittery before the purported hard-punching Honolulu Flash. But events proved they didn't know their "Sugar Ray."

The fighters received their instructions from the referee, shook hands and came out fighting. Sebastian made several futile attempts to reach the champ's jaw with flicking jabs. Both boys danced around on their toes and then "greased lightening" (the champ)) went into action. He jabbed the Honolulu Flash, and then caught him with a hard right cross, staggering the pride of the orient. As usual, "Sugar" lost no time; he followed thru with punches that carried plenty of steam, and in one minute, two seconds Sebastian lay prone upon his back, struggling in vain to gain his feet as the doleful "ten" was counted over him. 8-30-47 Sat.

Later, Bill Corum said there was no use in counting, they might have just as well begun singing "Aloa" (or whatever they sing night in Honolulu) when the champ shot out that first staggering punch.

No tickets were sold to the fight; one could not have been bought for $100, it is reported. The boxing show was put on for the legionnaires by the Gillette Safety Razor Blade Company, and Ray fought for a very small purse---$5,000-of for good which he gave $4,000 to the family of the late Jimmy Doyle.

## WEIGHING IN FOR LAST NIGHT'S NON-TITLE BOUT



Georgie Abrams (left) and Welterweight Champion Ray Robinson at the scales with Deputy Commissioner James Bruno doing the checking in the State Athletic Commission headquarters yesterday.

# ROBINSON DEFEATS ABRAMS IN GARDEN

New York, N.Y.

### Welterweight Champion Wins From Middleweight in Main 10-Round Bout

By JOSEPH C. NICHOLS

Ray Robinson, Harlem fighter who holds the world welterweight title, defeated Georgie Abrams, veteran Washington (D. C.) middleweight, on points in the feature bout of ten rounds at Madison Square Garden last night. A crowd of 15,000 was present.

Robinson weighed 150¾, while Abrams scaled 162. Eddie Joseph was the referee and the judges were Frank Forbes and Marty Monroe.

Abrams sent his left repeatedly into Robinson's face in the first and opened a cut beside Ray's right eye. Robinson missed frequently with long rights to the head.

They fell to the floor in a clinch in the second, but were up immediately. Abrams hooked several light lefts to the face but Robinson returned a hard right to the jaw.

Joe Governale, Brooklyn middleweight, defeated Billy Walker of Saybrook, Conn., in the eight-round semi-final. Governale scaled 159¾ and Walker 165.

**Governale Pounds Body**

They mixed willingly, Governale pounding the body and Walker the head. The latter slipped to the canvas midway in the round, but was up without a count. Walker landed frequently with long rights in the second.

Governale forced the going in the third and tagged Walker with several hard rights to the chin.

Walker missed often in the fourth while Governale scored effectively with short right counters to the head.

In the fifth Walker rocked Governale with two rights to the chin, but the Brooklyn warrior came back to score with short right hands to the jaw.

**Hooks Lefts to Head**

Walker drove a number of left hooks to the head and body in the seventh, but Governale returned a two-fisted fire to the body.

The last round went off at a brisk pace, Governale pounding the body and Walker hooking to the head.

In a scheduled six-round battle Cyril Gallie of Cardiff, Wales, scored a four-round knockout victory over Joey D'Amato of Youngstown. The rivals fought bitterly, each scoring a knockdown. Matters came to an end when D'Amato was unable to leave his corner for the fourth.

The winner weighed 145¼, D'Amato 146½.

Vernon Lester, San Francisco middleweight, defeated Nick Kashuba of Brooklyn in a spirited six-round fight. Lester's aggressiveness and steady body punching earned him the award. Lester weighed 156½, and Kashuba 157½.

They fought at close range through the sixth, with Governale inflicting the greater damage. The latter landed a punch after the bell but Walker shrugged it off.

**ABRAMS IS REPRIMANDED**

**He Is Called Down by Eagan for Violating Weight Contract**

When Georgie Abrams weighed 162 pounds at the examination at the State Athletic Commission offices yesterday for the Ray Robinson bout, he drew a reprimand from Chairman Eddie Eagan. The fight contract called for Abrams to weigh 161.

After ruling that the terms of the agreement should be changed to read that Abrams would not weigh over 165 pounds, Eagan stated that he believed Georgie would be suspended 30 days for violating the original contract. The board will conduct a hearing on the matter on Friday. "There is no question of the contract violation," Eagan said, "and the hearing will be held merely to review the case."

Robinson offered no objection to the fact that his opponent was overweight. He scaled 150¾.

Sat. 6-7-47

# Robinson Whips Doyle By T.K.O.

Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky. Wed. 6-25-47

## *Challenger Carried From Ring After Knockdown In Eighth*

Cleveland, June 24 (UP)—In the first defense of his world welterweight championship, Ray "Sugar" Robinson scored a technical knockout over courageous Jimmy Doyle of Los Angeles, in the eighth round tonight before a crowd estimated at 12,000 in the Cleveland Arena.

It was a dramatic finish to a surprisingly good fight when Robinson's explosive left hook floored Doyle shortly before the bell rang ending the eighth round. The blow put Doyle flat on his back near a neutral corner.

**HELPLESS**

The bell ending the eighth round rang at the count of nine—saving the challenger from a full-count kayo. But, because of Doyle's helpless condition, his handlers asked referee Jackie Davis to stop the bout.

Doyle, who nearly met death in the same ring 15 months ago, was again carried to his dressing room on a stretcher tonight. Friends hoped he had not suffered a recurrence of the brain concussion he received when knocked out here a year ago March by Artie Levine.

The crowd, completely pro-Doyle when the knockout came, stood about the red, white and blue ring, quietly awaiting word from the dressing room after Jimmy had been carried out.

His handlers announced that he had been taken to Charity Hospital.

Doyle, who had been forced to retire from the ring for nine months after the Levine knockout, made a grand showing tonight in his sixth fight since returning to the game. Never in any round did he take a step backwards as he marched forward, constantly trying to keep Robinson back on his heels and off balance.

**COURAGEOUS**

Despite his courageous attack and the combined smartness and ruggedness Doyle displayed, he did not win a single round on the United Press score sheet, although he fought on even terms in the third. Some of the rounds were very close but in practically every session Robinson's superior punch and his speedy combination hitting gave him at least an edge.

# Jimmy Doyle Dies After Robinson Fight

Atlanta, Ga. Constitution Thurs. 6-26-47

CLEVELAND, June 25—(AP)—Jimmy Doyle, 22-year-old Los Angeles boxer, died Wednesday of head injuries suffered Tuesday night when he lost by an eight-round technical knockout in a title bout with Welterweight Champion Ray (Sugar) Robinson.

The death was the first suffered by a professional boxer in a world championship match.

The youthful fighter never regained consciousness after being carried from the ringside to Charity Hospital. Later he underwent an operation by Dr. Spencer Braden, noted Cleveland brain specialist, and the last rites of the Catholic Church were administered.

Hospital attaches said Doyle was suffering from a blood clot and concussion and that respiratory paralysis had developed. He was given oxygen and carbon dioxide continuously.

Separate investigations into his death were under way by the Cleveland Boxing Commission and County Coroner Samuel R. Gerber. Mayor Thomas A. Burke said he wanted a complete report on the fighter's condition before the bout.

Doyle suffered a brain concussion March 11 of last year when knocked out here by Artie Levine, Brooklyn middleweight. Dr. A. F. Hagedorn, Cleveland Boxing Commission Chairman, however, said Tuesday night's injury was a fresh one. He described it as separation of a brain membrane caused when the fighter's head hit the ring floor.

# ROBINSON CLEARED IN DEATH OF DOYLE

New York, N.Y. Times

### Champion Absolved of Blame by Coroner Investigating Boxer's Fatal Injury

Fri. 6-27-47

CLEVELAND, June 26 (UP)—Coroner Samuel Gerber today absolved Ray (Sugar) Robinson, world welterweight champion, of all blame in the death of Jimmy Doyle, his opponent in a title fight here Tuesday night.

Gerber ruled that Robinson could in no way be blamed for the

death of the young Los Angeles fighter, seventeen hours after he was technically knocked out by the champion in the Arena ring here. Fri. 6-27-47

The 22-year-old boxer died in St. Vincent's Charity Hospital from brain injuries suffered when he was stopped by Robinson's hard left in the eighth round.

Gerber, in a determined effort to find whether Jimmy was physically fit when he entered the ring, questioned both Paul Doyle, the welterweight's manager, and Edward Delaney, the fighter's brother.

Delaney insisted that his brother was a "changed man" ever since he suffered a brain injury fifteen months ago in the same ring at the hands of hard-hitting Artie Levine. He said that Doyle before the Levine fight was very active, a great dancer and always was "sparring around" the house. Afterward, Delaney said, Jimmy would sit for hours reading a book, was always quiet and insisted that he would never again enter a ring.

Jimmy's manager, however, insisted that Doyle was in "tip-top" shape when he entered the ring for his big chance against Robinson and that up until the moment he was hit by Robinson's left he was entirely fit. Fri. 6-27-47

Gerber said he would continue his investigation.

# Doyle Dies of Injuries Suffered In Cleveland Bout With Robinson

New York, N.Y. Times

### Brain Operation Is Unavailing and the Los Angeles Boxer Is Unconscious to the End—Coroner Plans Investigation

51e Thur. 6-26-47

CLEVELAND, June 25 (U.P.) — Jimmy Doyle, Los Angeles fighter, died today of injuries caused "largely by blows to the jaw and face" suffered in his wetlerweight championship fight last night at the Arena with Ray (Sugar) Robinson.

County Coroner Samuel Gerber ruled that Doyle died of a cerebral hemorrhage and said that "the greater damage was done by blows to the jaw and face, although his head striking the ring floor may have added to the damage."

Doyle died at 3:25 P. M. in St. Vincent's Charity Hospital where he had been taken unconscious from the Arena last ngiht after he was technically knocked out in the eighth round by Robinson. He never regained consciousness.

**Will Investigate Thoroughly**

Gerber said an autopsy of Doyle's body showed the hemorrhage was largely in the rear part of the rear part of the brain. He said he would conduct a thorough investigation of all circumstances surrounding the boxer's death.

The coroner planned the question Robinson's manager, George Gainford; a Cleveland friend of Robinson's named Roger Price, and a second, Warren Jones of New York. Paul Doyle, manager of Jimmy Doyle, also was to be called.

The 22-year-old fighter died after a game, but losing, seventeen-hour battle for life. A delicate brain operation failed to save him.

The Cleveland Boxing Commission's examining physician, Dr. A. F. Hagedorn, said that Doyle was in good health before the fight. He told a hearing called by Mayor Thomas Burke that he believed the fighter's death was caused by a new injury because X-rays taken before the fight showed Doyle was in good shape.

Dr. Hagedorn also testified that Doyle had been approved for fighting in New York State on April 11 by Dr. Vincent Nardiello of that state's Athletic Commission.

Thurs. 6-26-47

**Doyle's Purse Held Up**

Chairman Andy Putka of the local commission held up Doyle's purse of $11,841. He said the money would go to Probate Court where the fighter's relatives could claim it. Robinson's purse of $25,000 was not held up.

The Californian was sent to the canvas by the champion's left hook last night. His head hit the floor and bounced twice. Doyle tried to rise but sank back.

With the young challenger when he died was Father James Nagle, chaplain of the hospital.

Funeral arrangements were to be made by Doyle's brother, Edward, who was flying to Cleveland from the West Coast.

Doyle's death was the first resulting from injuries in a championship fight in modern ring history.

Other ring deaths included those of Ernie Schaab, who died from injuries received at the hands of Primo Carnera of Italy in New York's Madison Square Garden in 1933, and of Luther McCarty, who died from a neck broken when knocked out by Arthur Pelky at Calgary, Alta., Canada, in 1913. Twelve fighters died from ring injuries throughout the world last year.

Dr. Hagedorn, who attended Doyle in the arena's first-aid room immediately after the fight, said it appeared to him that the most damage had been done by Doyle's head bouncing off the ring floor, rather than from Robinson's hook.

**Out of Ring Nine Months**

Doyle was near death fifteen months ago from a concussion suffered in the same ring at the hands of middleweight Artie Levine. He stayed out of the ring for nine months before attempting a comeback. Thur. 6-26-47

In the hospital last night Doyle was placed under an oxygen tent. He never once took an unaided breath because of a paralysis caused by brain injury.

Dr. Spencer Braden, a brain specialist, operated on Doyle at 3 A. M. to release pressure caused by a blood clot.

Dr. Braden said that "extensive" damage had been done to the boxer's brain.

Robinson, who joked with reporters after the fight, later learned that Doyle was in critical condition and went to the hospital before dawn.

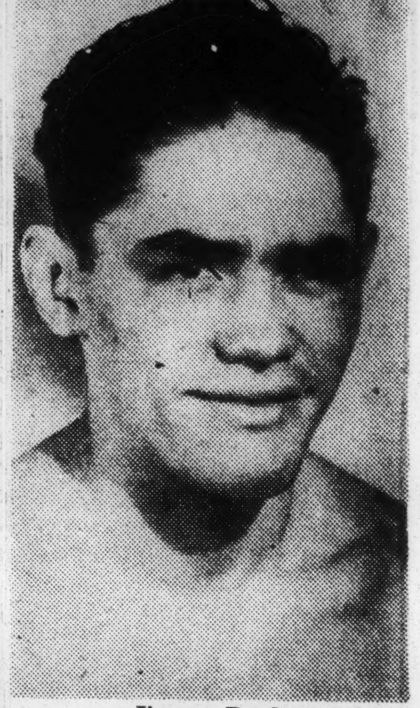
He said he was "sure sorry" but that he "didn't have any idea he was seriously hurt when I left the ring. He was a great kid and a swell fighter."

**Started Boxing in 1941**

Jimmy Doyle was born Jimmy Delaney in August, 1924, in Los Angles and was of French-American parentage. He launched his boxing career in 1941. Including the fatal bout against Ray Robinson, Doyle's career encompassed forty-two ring engagements in six years of activity. He suffered only seven defeats, three of the losses by knockouts, including the Robinson knockout, and four on decision.

In his early days Doyle was tutored by such ring greats of the past as James J. Jeffries and the late Jack Johnson, two former heavyweight champions who took

Thur. 6-26-47



Jimmy Doyle
Associated Press

an interest in the youth and undertook to develop his boxing capabilities. Most of his career Doyle spent fighting in California rings. It was not until late in 1944 that he came East. He was a clever, scientific boxer, whose style lacked appeal, although it was effective.

The death of Doyle was the first of record in a ring championship bout in modern times, according to available records. Back in 1897 Jim Barry, successor to George Dixon as world bantamweight champion, knocked out Walter Croot in twenty rounds of a bout held in London, England, and following the bout Croot died. Barry was exonerated by a coroner's jury.

## Death Of Jimmy Doyle

B'ham, Ala. News

Another fighter has died as a direct result of injuries received in the prize ring. He was game, but he may not have been wise or the recipient of good advice. For Jimmy Doyle had once before been so seriously injured that he was hospitalized for weeks. This time he stayed upright until the eighth round. Then he stepped directly into a stiff left hook delivered by his opponent, Welterweight Champion Ray (Sugar) Robinson. Down he went, hitting his head viciously on the floor of the ring as he fell. Although the end of the round came before the referee finished counting him out, he remained unconscious. He never came back, in fact, and died 17 hours later in the same hospital in which he was cared for after that other disastrous knockout of March, 1946.

51e

These details are important. At least the coroner, who is also a medical man, believes they are. He is starting an investigation which he declares will be the most exhaustive ever made after a fatal injury to a boxer. The scene of the fight was Cleveland, Ohio, and Dr. Gerber, the coroner, says that he does not want the boxing game to be hurt in Ohio, as it might well be if the fullest knowledge of what happened to Doyle is not brought forward for all to know. Fri. 6-27-47

Although the fight was conducted strictly according to all sporting rules, the winner has been subjected to severe questioning by authorities. Did he pick Doyle as an opponent, knowing of his earlier injury and counting on it to weaken the man in this present fight? Robinson denies that idea, stating that he had nothing to do with the choice of his opponent. His manager insists that Doyle was the logical contender for the title, that he had fought himself into the position of being the one to challenge. But, asks the coroner, did Doyle show any signs in the ring of feeling the former injury or of being less good a fighter than he would have been had he never been injured before? Robinson says he doesn't know, but that he did not plan his strategy for the fight with that in mind.

* * *

The autopsy shows that Doyle died of a brain hemorrhage. It might have been aggravated by the blow to the back of his head when he fell. (In that case, the coroner wants to know whether the floor was sufficiently padded.) There was, however, ample evidence in the brain of the earlier injury. Now it seems apparent that Doyle ought never to have fought again. But how was anyone to know that before he entered the ring against Robinson? Fri. 6-27-47

There isn't much to be said. Boxing is a strenuous sport. It requires that participants be in absolutely top condition. There has been a long line of sad cases of men who have died as a result of a boxing injury. Doyle is far from being the first. The answer probably lies in stricter physical examinations and an iron-clad rule that no matter what hinges on the bout, prestige or cash, no fighter shall be qualified to enter the ring if there is even a shadow of a doubt in the medical man's mind that he can stand the pummelling he is likely to get.

51e 1947

# Walcott Confident

Wed. 11-26-47. Daily Worker. New York, N.Y.

GRENLOCH, N. J., Nov. 25.—Jersey Joe Walcott, in a final, pre-battle statement today said he would make Joe Louis' 24th defense of the world heavyweight championship on Dec. 5 "his last."

Walcott, who will be held incommunicado from now until after the fight, said he felt physically capable of wresting the title from Louis. With a happy grin, Jersey Joe explained, "I'm 33 and Louis is 33, but he'll think he's in there with his son when we meet. That's how good I feel." Wed. 11-26-47

The stocky challenger made his statement to reporters in the dressing room after finishing five fast rounds of boxing with four sparring partners. He demonstrated his punching prowess by flooring Eddie Wilson with a left hook to the chin in the first of two rounds they boxed. Walcott worked one round each with Austin Johnson, Ed Franklin and Joe Brickle. Against each of his four mates, the challenger concentrated on sharpening his left hook.

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PM New York, N.Y. 12-16-47

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"Let me remind them that they didn't give us a tumble for a long time before they finally offered us last Friday's match. Then we had to sign for 15 per cent, the smallest cut they could get away with, while Louis got 45. We took it because we had no choice.

"They made us sign contracts for a return bout, if we won the title, and under that agreement we would get 30 and Louis 30. We accepted that too, although Walcott as champ should be entitled to 45 the same as Louis.

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Jersey Joe Walcott

# Walcott Confident

Wed. 11-26-47. Daily Worker. New York, N.Y.

GRENLOCH, N. J., Nov. 25.—Jersey Joe Walcott, in a final, pre-battle statement today said he would make Joe Louis' 24th defense of the world heavyweight championship on Dec. 5 "his last."

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# Walcott Protest Is Turned Down

Courier + Journal Louisville, Ky. Jun.-12-9-47

New York, Dec. 8 (AP)—Joe Louis said today he was willing to meet Jersey Joe Walcott again in June of next summer. He made the announcement just a few hours after the New York Athletic Commission had turned thumbs down on the Camden battler's arguments for a reversal of last Friday night's verdict.

At a meeting of the state athletic commission today, Chairman Eddie Eagan and Commissioner Clilan B. Powell devoted about 12 minutes to hearing the claims of Walcott and his manager, Joe Webster, then issued a statement disclaiming any desire "to interfere with the discretion and judgment of competent officials."

The extraordinary hearing, Eagan pointed out, was granted only because Walcott and Webster are residents of another state and might not be familiar with New York rules.

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Blackburn-Taught

# Jersey Joe's Secret Weapon: A Right Cross

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 12-27-47

*Editor's Note: This is the second in a series of articles dealing with "Jersey Joe" Walcott, the brown-skinned challenger who nearly ended the championship reign of Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis on Friday, Dec. 5.*

By JACK SAUNDERS

"Jersey Joe" Walcott's vaunted "secret weapon" was the sneaking but shattering right cross that dumped the mighty Joe Louis twice in their memorable title bout on Friday, Dec. 5, in Madison Square Garden. "Jersey Joe" learned how to throw that punch several years ago, and the person that taught him was a fistic marvel by the name of Jack Blackburn!

Jack Blackburn no longer treads the broad and narrow avenues of this earth. He is dead. He died not so many years ago when his two prize pupils, Joe Louis and Joe Walcott, were beating paths in different directions. Louis was riding high, as the celebrated heavyweight champion of the world. And Walcott—he was working in the New York Shipbuilding Yard (in Camden, N. J.) for a salary of about sixty dollars ($60) per week.

So it's no secret why millions remember Jack Blackburn as the man who guided Louis to the topmost point of the fistic heap, and not as the man who tutored and trained "Jersey Joe" Walcott before he (Blackburn) ever heard the name Joe Louis Barrow.

WALCOTT FIRST "CHAPPIE"

And here's something else it might be well to pass on. Blackburn nicknamed Walcott "Chappie" long before he hung that sobriquet on Joe Louis!

Joseph Cream, "Jersey Joe's" father, was born on St. John Island, Barbados, West Indies, the same birthplace as that of the original Joe Walcott, the immortal "Barbados Demon." Thus, when "Jersey Joe" decided to become a fighter, he took for his ring name the name of the fighter who had been his father's favorite and his (Jersey Joe's) idea of the greatest fighter that ever lived, pound for pound.

The elder Cream came to America at the age of eleven and settled in Merchantville, N. J. He fell in love a few years later and married the girl that gave him six sons and six daughters. Arnold (the hero of this story) was one of those sons, and he first saw the light of day on Jan. 31, 1914.

He liked school from the very beginning, and stuck at it until he was graduated from Merchantville High School with honors. He learned to speak well and developed a fine writing hand. He also learned how to play football, basketball and baseball, and how to protect himself from the big, tough guys.

ALWAYS FAST AND SHIFTY

"Jersey Joe" could always take care of himself against boys his size and age. He loved to box and fight for one thing, and for another, he was shifty, fast on his feet and unusually smart.

When he was eight, "Joe" laced on his first pair of boxing gloves. George Cole, a good scrapper and trainer, gave him the opportunity. Cole had a gymnasium in th eHomestead section of Merchantville and numbered among his clients were such ring heroes of yesteryear as Jack Johnson, Sam Langford, Jim Jeffries and Jack Blackburn. In later years, "Jersey Joe" used to sneak into the gym to see fighters go through their paces, and it was on one of those occasions that he decided to become a prize fighter.

So, at the age of sixteen (seventeen years ago) the boy who was to make ring history in Madison Square Garden and win international acclaim, fought his first professional fight. He was a welterweight and received a purse of $7.50. Walcott doesn't remember the name of his first opponent, but he does remember the name of the second. He was "Cowboy" Wallace, and "Jersey Joe" knocked him out in the second round of a bruising battle that was fought in Merchantville back in 1930. For that fight, Walcott received a purse of $15.

KAYOED BY CUPID

"Jersey Joe" had been fighting for about three years, during which he had three different trainers and three different managers, when romance crept into his life. The girl was a school sweetheart. Her name was Lydia. She was tall; shapely, very attractive and the color of a ripe brown berry.

Joe was nineteen, and Lydia was eighteen. The depression was on and breadlines were strung out all over the country. That, however, didn't smother the fires of young love, and Joe and Lydia took the marriage vows before their minister in Merchantville.

"Jersey Joe" was struggling to make ends meet, working as an ice man and fighting in one-horse towns, when Arnold, Jr., oldest of the six Walcott children, was born. After him came Elva, Vincent, Doris, Ruth and Gloria—six strong and healthy children who had their father's fine physique and their mother's good looks.

"Things were getting tougher and tougher, though," says "Jersey Joe," "and when I wasn't trying to make a dime fighting, I was working as a garbage man, cement worker and practically everything else to feed my family."

He couldn't make a dime in 1934, so retired from the ring for the first time, little realizing that a year later would find him pitted against Joe Louis for the first time as a sparring partner.

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*John McNulty*

# He Gotta Beat You, Jersey Joe

PM New York, N.Y.

An open letter here follows, addressed to Jersey Joe Walcott, Camden, New Jersey:

Dear Joe:

He got to lick you and then retire. That's all there can be to it. He got to lick you, next time, and go over across the ring after the count, and help pick you up, and then he got to retire. It has to be that way. That has to be the end of Joe Louis, not the way it was Friday night.

This may sound as if I am against you. I do not think I am. I think you won the one in the Garden last Friday night, and if it were anybody else but Joe Louis, I would be glad you won. I was glad that you had so much guts and wiseness, but I hated to see Joe look as bad as he did, stalking you around the ring for the moment that never came.

It never came because you are an old club fighter, not one bit afraid, and you threw him off balance every time in all those 15 rounds with a jab when he was about to get set.

12-8-47

***Got to Give You A Square Chance***

Mon

You were unbelievable, too, in the ninth, when I thought he had you cornered, and you took it all and wound up with a few slugs back at him. You seem to me, a stranger by the ringside, to be a fine man at your trade, prize fighting.

But he got to beat you He got to. He got to give you another square chance at it, and both of you will be a few months older, since the way it figures now it will be outdoors in June (and they'll accuse me of aiding in Harry Markson's ballyhoo about the fight).

***Been Champion A Long Time***

It's been a long time that he has been champ, and even though he lost it in his heart Friday night, he still is the champ one way or another. I think you know that, even after you beat him. I do not mean that I hold anything away from you for running in the 15th. That, to me, seemed to be the thing to do. Conn was so foolish as to not do it in the 13th round in 1941, and you know what happened to him.

It's been a long time that Joe has been champ, as I said. Funny, now, come to think of it, both of you are named Joe, but when I say Joe and others say it (except maybe right in your own neighborhood) they mean Louis when they say Joe. That's what being champ means. When you're the champ, people don't have to know you at all to call you by your first name. Even the President of the United States doesn't get the honor of that universal familiarity. Nobody with a lick of sense talks of President Truman as Harry.

I want you to try hard the next time, the same smart way you tried this time. Everybody does. The guys in the seats in the Garden, the people over in Jersey, the thousands of fellows standing packed against the bar looking at television in saloons all over New York.

Mon-12-8-47

***Fair and Square, Way He Fights***

PM New York

You will, and I want him to beat you. Fair and square I want him to beat you, the way he always fights. It got to be that way. You looked to me, and to many of that 18,000 last Friday night, like a good man. So is Joe. But he has been a good man, a champ, for a long time, and we have come to love him.

I didn't hear it, but I read in the papers he came over and said to you afterwards, "I'm sorry, Joe."

I think he knew you had won, and he is so honest and on the square that no matter what the papers say, or no matter what managers and wise guys and promoters, and all that say, there was a minute there after he said, "I'm sorry, Joe," that you knew he was a great man. So are you. But he got to beat you the next time and I hope you understand that and fight him hard as you can, and realize what I am saying to you now is from friendship.

Good luck, just the same.

—JOHN McNULTY

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**$1,000 FOR WALCOTT**

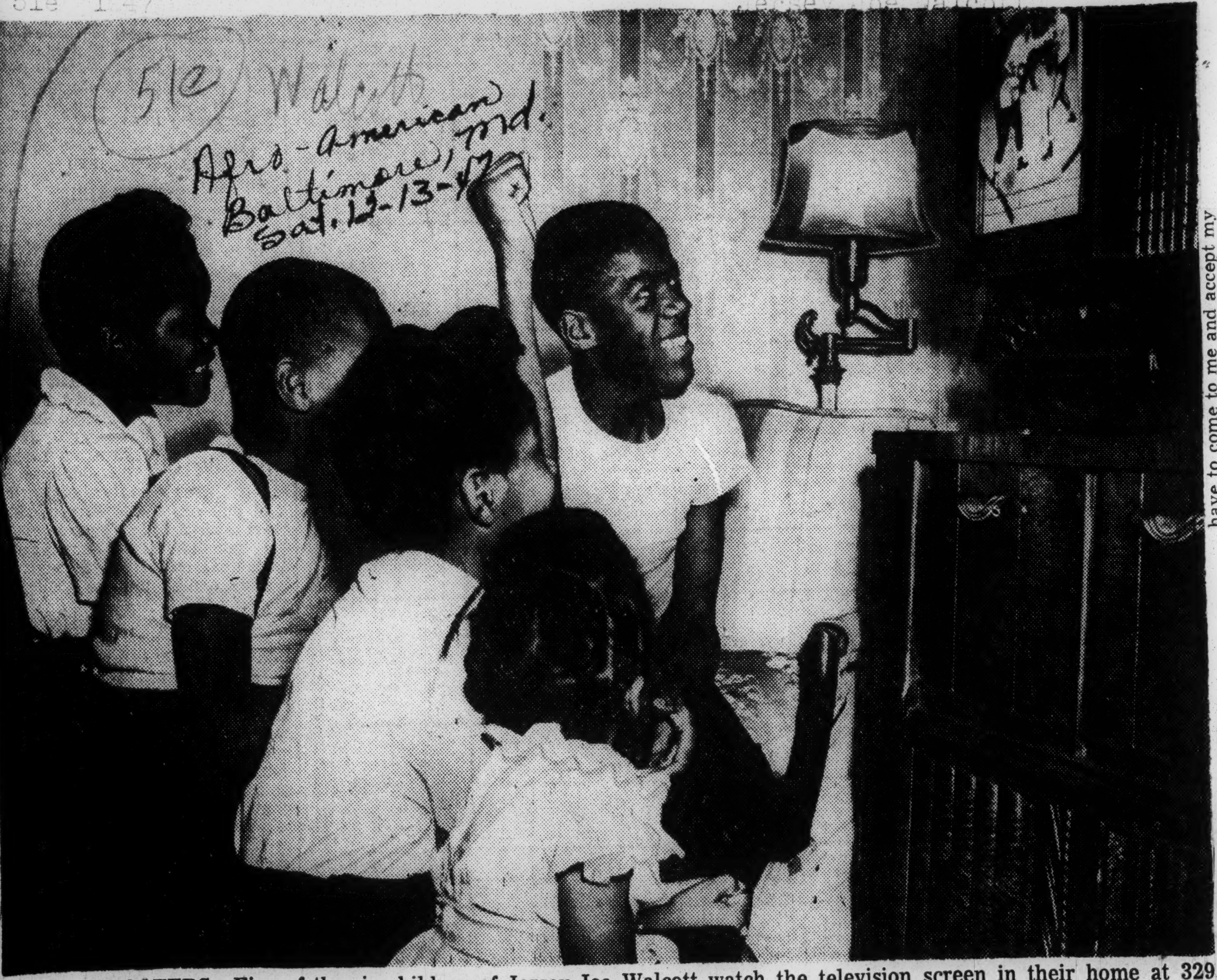
12-17-47

BOSTON—Jersey Joe Walcott has begun to cash in on his recent showing against Joe Louis. Monday night Walcott received the sum of $1,000 for being guest referee.

51e 1-47 Jersey Joe Walcott

51e Walcott

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 12-13-47



**WALCOTT ROOTERS**—Five of the six children of Jersey Joe Walcott watch the television screen in their home at 329 Nickel St., Camden, N.J., before the actual televising of the historic fight between Walcott and Joe Louis at Madison Square Garden, New York. From left: Doris, 10; Vincent, 7; Ruth, 8; Carol, 2, and Arnold, 14. Daughter Elva is not shown.

# *On the Score Board*

**By Lester Rodney**

### *Jersey Joe Calls It Foolish*

**BRIEF CHAT WITH JOE WALCOTT** at ringside, Madison Square Garden Friday night:

"What about this Lesnevich noise, Joe?"

"That's perfectly foolish, isn't it? I don't want to run Gus down, he's a fine light heavyweight. But do you think the public would stand for me getting a runaround like that? Louis knows better too. He was just kidding around up there I suppose, and they wrote it up seriously. There'll be a lot of talk from around 20th Century about this fight because they haven't got me all tied up, but they know the fight the public wants to see and they'll have to come to me."

Very little to add to that. Except that part of the jockeying from 20th Century, if you want to get cynical about such things, could be aimed at hammering down Walcott's request for 30 percent of the tremendous gate which will be forthcoming in June for Louis vs. Walcott the second. Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

**The fight will be held, of course. Lesnevich isn't even silly enough to be flattered by the unexpected attention. Gus has the great good sense to know that he's a light heavyweight and doesn't belong in the ring with Louis, not even the 33-year-old Louis. I heard him say so very frankly. He's about 20 pounds lighter than Walcott and not nearly as shifty and evasive.** Mon. 12-15-47

Walcott, by the way, received one of the most ear shattering receptions ever tendered a non participating fighter in the Garden. We'd say just about second loudest to a couple of those for Joe Louis. . . .

51e

**GARDEN PROMOTER SAYS---**

# Jersey Joe Will Fight Louis For 20 Percent or Not at All

PM New York, N.Y.

Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

BY GAYLE TALBOT

NEW YORK, Dec. 16—(AP)—Sol Strauss, whose dander rises at the drop of a writ, declared with desk-thumping emphasis Tuesday that Jersey Joe Walcott either can fight Joe Louis again next June for 20 percent of the net receipts or remain in Camden, N. J. with his memories.

Sol, acting head of the 20th Century Sporting Club, sounded very much as though he meant it. He is an irritated barrister. Additionally, he feels deeply hurt that Jersey Joe and his official family have turned on him after he gave them their big opportunity.

"Never-never-never!" he exploded when asked if there was any chance he would relent and grant Walcott the 30-30 split in the return bout with the heavyweight champion. Wed. 12-17-47

"Certainly," he conceded, "we had a written agreement that they would split 30-30 in a return fight in the event Walcott won the title. It's right here in my desk. But Walcott didn't win the decision. Louis did, and he's still the champion and entitled to the champion's share."

Strauss said he had seen none of the Walcott crowd since the night of the fight 11 days ago, when he went to Jersey Joe's dressing room to congratulate him on his great showing. All he knows since then is what he has read in the papers. He refused to discuss Felix Bicchicchio, the Camden promoter who appears to have emerged belatedly as Walcott's chief spokesman.

"Should I go to them with my hat in my hand?" Sol shouted. "I say not. If Walcott wants to fight for the championship again he will have to come to me and accept my terms. He not only will have to take 20 percent, but he will have to sign a contract to defend the title for the 20th Century Club in the event he wins.

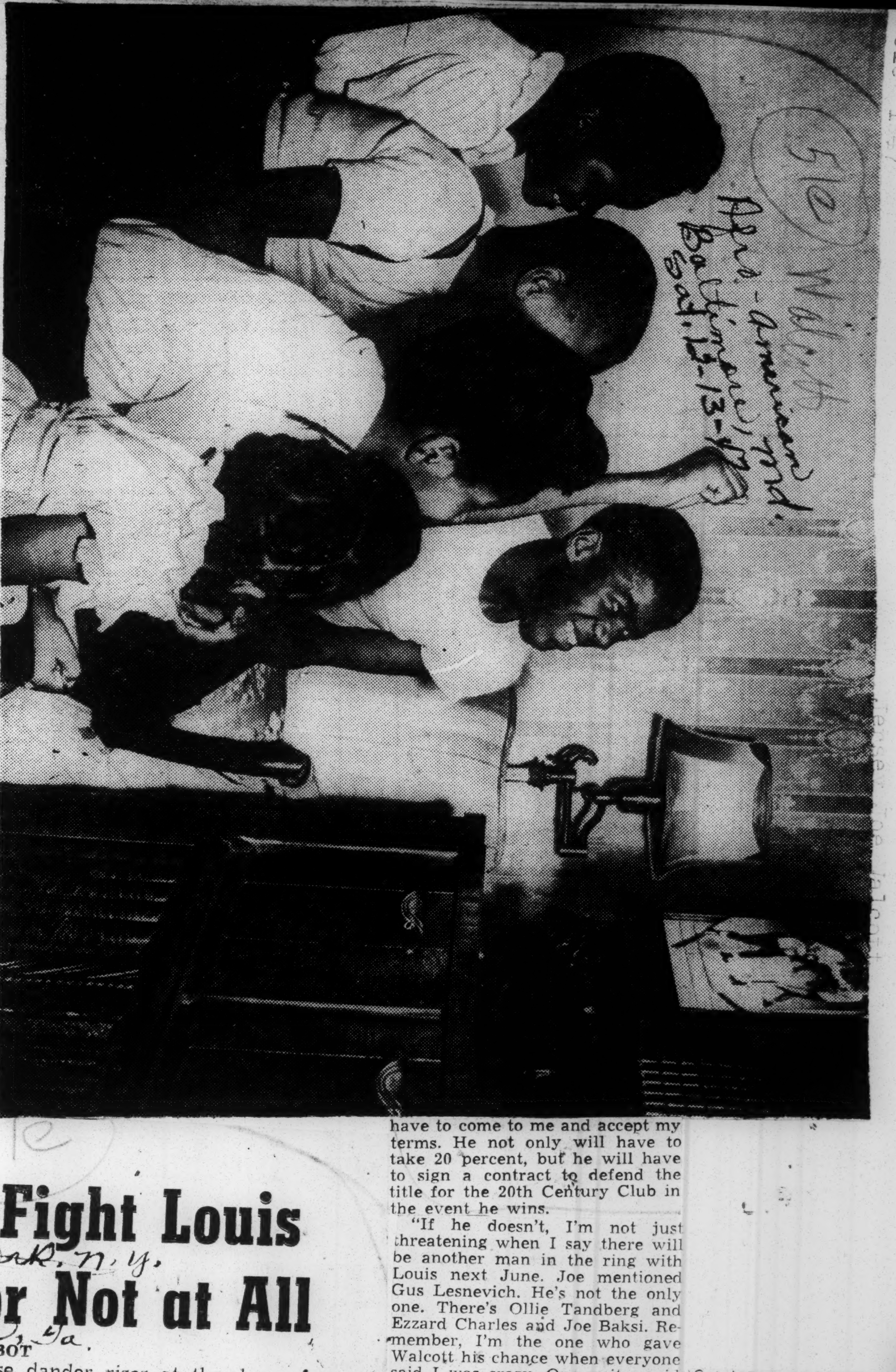
"If he doesn't, I'm not just threatening when I say there will be another man in the ring with Louis next June. Joe mentioned Gus Lesnevich. He's not the only one. There's Ollie Tandberg and Ezzard Charles and Joe Baksi. Remember, I'm the one who gave Walcott his chance when everyone said I was crazy. One writer said I should be thrown in jail for charging $30. Now what do they say? Wed. 12-17-47

"Why should Walcott think he's worth more than 20 percent? That's what Billy Conn got for fighting Louis the second time, and that was a $100 fight. Max Schmeling got 20 for his second fight with Joe, and he was a former champion. It Walcott worth more than those two?"

Strauss pointed out that, in order to hike Walcott's cut to 20 percent from the 15 he received for the first bout, they were reducing the champion's share from 45 to 40. He thought it sweetly reasonable of Louis to accept this demotion, even though he did hang onto his crown by a split second.

Strauss said, also, that he was prepared, to give Walcott a slice of the radio profits the next time, a sum not to be sneezed at.

Strauss, it should be pointed out, is not a ballyhoo artist. He is a smart lawyer who found himself



WALCOTT ROOTERS—Five of the six children of Jersey Joe Walcott watch the television screen in their home at 329 Nickel St., Camden, N.J., before the actual televising of the historic fight between Walcott and Joe Louis at Madison Square Garden, New York. From left: Doris, 10; Vincent, 7; Ruth, 8; Carol, 2, and Arnold, 14. Daughter Elva is not shown.

51e Walcott Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 12-13-47

# On the Score Board

By Lester Rodney

### Jersey Joe Calls It Foolish

BRIEF CHAT WITH JOE WALCOTT at ringside, Madison Square Garden Friday night:

"What about this Lesnevich noise, Joe?"

"That's perfectly foolish, isn't it? I don't want to run Gus down, he's a fine light heavyweight. But do you think the public would stand for me getting a runaround like that? Louis knows better too.

He was just kidding around up there I suppose, and they wrote it up seriously. There'll be a lot of talk from around 20th Century about this fight because they haven't got me all tied up, but they know the fight the public wants to see and they'll have to come to me."

Very little to add to that. Except that part of the jockeying from 20th Century, if you want to get cynical about such things, could be aimed at hammering down Walcott's request for 30 percent of the tremendous gate which will be forthcoming in June for Louis vs. Walcott the second.

**The fight will be held, of course. Lesnevich isn't even silly enough to be flattered by the unexpected attention. Gus has the great good sense to know that he's a light heavyweight and doesn't belong in the ring with Louis, not even the 33-year-old Louis. I heard him say so very frankly. He's about 20 pounds lighter than Walcott and not nearly as shifty and evasive.**

Walcott, by the way, received one of the most ear shattering receptions ever tendered a non participating fighter in the Garden. We'd say just about second loudest to a couple of those for Joe Louis....

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Mon. 12-15-47

## GARDEN PROMOTER SAYS---

# Jersey Joe Will Fight Louis For 20 Percent or Not at All

New York, N.Y. Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

By GAYLE TALBOT

NEW YORK, Dec. 16—(AP)—Sol Strauss, whose dander rises at the drop of a writ, declared with desk-thumping emphasis Tuesday that Jersey Joe Walcott either can fight Joe Louis again next June for 20 percent of the net receipts or remain in Camden, N. J. with his memories.

Sol, acting head of the 20th Century Sporting Club, sounded very much as though he meant it. He is an irritated barrister. Additionally, he feels deeply hurt that Jersey Joe and his official family have turned on him after he gave them their big opportunity.

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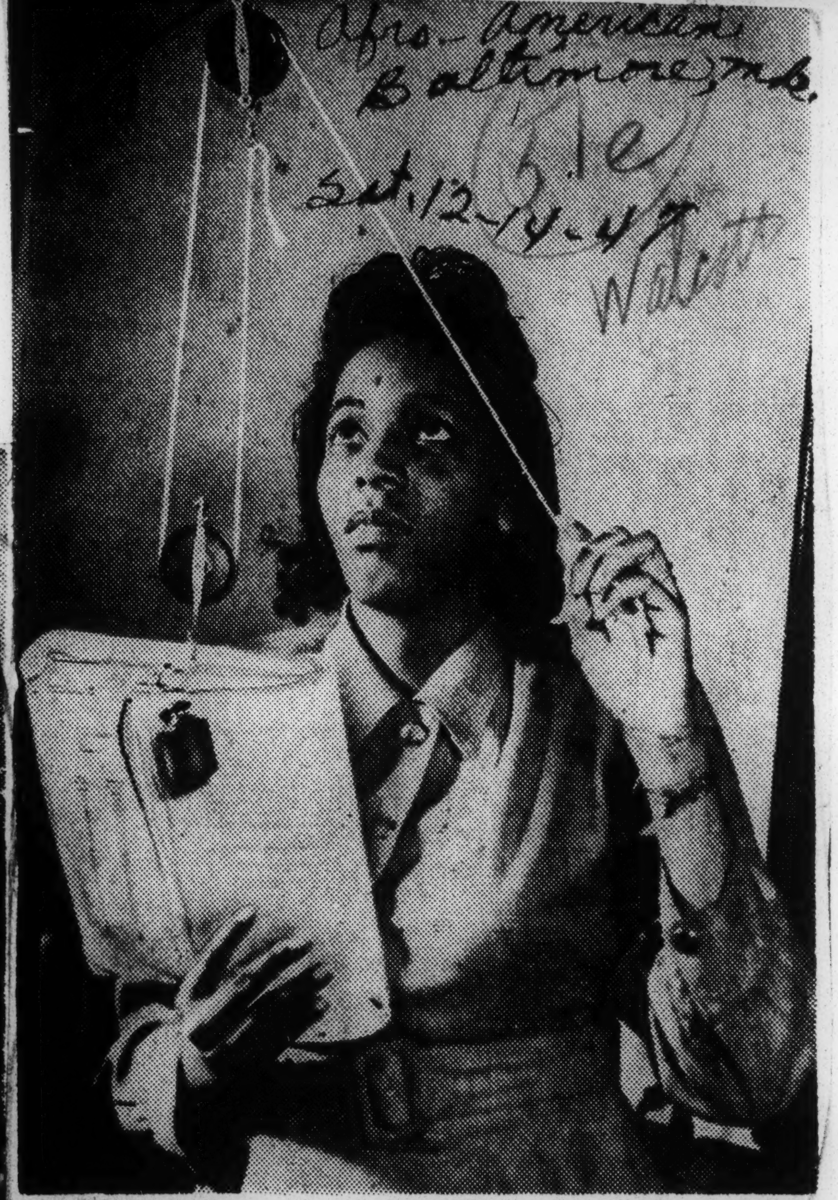
suddenly running a prizefight foundry last Winter when Promoter Mike Jacobs became ill. Sol is not drumming up a "feud" with the Walcott people. He simply consented to answer a few questions put by this writer in an effort to clear up the situation, and he became somewhat steamed in the process.

Constitution
Atlanta Ga

There seems no real reason to doubt that there will be a second Louis-Walcott bout next June. Strauss realizes as well as the next one that he has to give Jersey Joe another shot. But the boys from Camden are going to find Sol a hard man to high-pressure.

Sat. 12-20-47

**BACK HOME**—Two days after he lost a close decision to Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis, Arnold Cream (known as Jersey Joe Walcott in the prize ring) leaves with his family to attend church. Left to right: Vincent, 7; Carol, 3; Irva, 12; Ruth, 8; oris, 10; Arnold Jr., 14; Mrs. Lydia Cream, and the boxer himself.




**JERSEY JOE'S WIFE**—Mrs. Lydia Cream, wife of Jersey Joe Walcott, does not confine her interests to her home and six children. She commutes daily between Camden, N.J., and Temple University in Philadelphia where she is studying to become a medical technician and where she is shown above conducting a weights and balancing experiment in her physics course.

# Jersey Joe Feted, His Kids Jimcrowed

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y. Tue. 12-9-47
51e

**By John Norman**

CAMDEN, N. J., Dec. 8.—Jersey Joe Walcott's home town turned out today in a hero's welcome for the man who twice belted Joe Louis to the canvas in the most widely disputed title fight of the century.

An estimated 30,000 lined Broadway and jammed City Hall Plaza to hail the Mickle Street Mauler as "Camden's world champion."

Bands played. Factory whistles tooted. Flashguns blared. Politicians orated. The Mayor gave Joe the key to the city. School children were let out an hour early to join the ovation. Tue 12-9-47

**But none of the Chamber of Commerce or political speakers mentioned that Jersey Joe's own children came up to the celebration from a Jimcrow school.**

Unofficial world's champion or not, Joe Walcott's kids are still discriminated against in Camden's segregated school setup.

**SCHOOL HEAD WORRIES**

Doris, 10, Ruth, 8, Vincent, 7, all go to the Negro Stevens Grade School, not far from the modest Walcott home at 329 Mickle St., exactly opposite Walt Whitman's old home.

The Stevens School goes up to the 6th grade. Vera, 12, has to travel 18 blocks to attend 7th grade at the all-Negro Whittier School—although Clara Burroughs Junior High School is only four blocks from her home. White children come from all over the city to attend the Burroughs School.

Dr. Leon Neulen, Camden Superintendent of School was distinctly worried this afternoon when the Daily Worker asked him whether the board would do anything to correct the situation.

**"We'll certainly look into it," he said. "That would be no way to treat Camden's most famous citizen."**

Dr. Neulen dodged questions about Camden's 15,000 other Negro citizens. "There is no discrimination against Negroes in Camden's schools," the superintendent said for the record.

**NAACP PRESSES SUIT**

Dr. U. S. Williams, Camden NAACP President and Walcott's personal physician, smiled wryly when he was asked to confirm or deny Dr. Newlen's statement.

**"There are seven all-Negro schools in Camden," Dr. Williams said "there isn't a single Negro teacher in any of the white schools nor in any mixed Junior High School for that matter. The NAACP is now pressing a court case against discrimination in Camden's schools," Dr. Williams said.** Tue. 12-9-47

Down on Mickle St. where Walcott is known by his real name of Arnold Pream, Mrs. Pream was too busy preparing for Jersey Joe's homecoming to talk to reporters. But she wasn't too busy to see this reporter when she found out he wanted to talk about her children's schooling.

Young and pretty, Mrs. Pream's eyes flashed as she verified the discrimination that dominates Camden's schools.

**"They say people can't get along together," she said, "but this crowd out to greet Joe proves they're wrong. It's about time the officials found out there is no excuse for discrimination against any minority in a country like ours."**

The officials found it out today about Jersey Joe Walcott. They haven't yet learned it about Arnold Pream.

# Walcott Got $7.50 For First Ring Bout

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat. 12-20-47
51e

*EDITOR'S NOTE—This is the first in a series of articles dealing with "Jersey Joe" Walcott, the brown-skinned challenger who nearly ended the championship reign of Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis on Friday, Dec. 5.*

**By JACK SAUNDERS**

The most colorful and the most inconceivable of the Horatio Alger yarns have at long last found a rival in the "rags-to-riches" saga of "Jersey Joe" Walcott . . . "Jersey Joe" Walcott is the broad-shouldered, brown-skinned Camden, N. J., fighting machine that nearly ended the pugilistic championship reign of the mighty Joe Louis and is now regarded by millions as the "uncrowned heavyweight champion of the world." 12-20-47

"Jersey Joe," 33, and the father of six children, was once on relief, was once a garbage man, shipyard worker, concrete worker, caulker and a fighter that had at least eight different managers and nine different trainers over a span of seventeen years. He received the sum of seven dollars and fifty cents ($7.50) for his first fight and for the past year has been living in a side street of Camden, N. J.

"Jersey Joe" went to New York the morning of Friday, Dec. 5, a "rank underdog," an "absurd pretender" with but a few friends, the majority of whom didn't give him a chance in a million of waging the great fight that he did against the great Joe Louis.

"One round," said thousands . . . "Two rounds," said tens of thousands . . . "Three rounds," echoed millions.

**"JERSEY JOE" FOOLED THEM**

But "Jersey Joe" fooled them . . . He fool them and astounded the entire world by blasting the great champion to the floor twice in their memorable fight in Madison Square Garden. By his amazing feat Walcott established himself as the "crown prince of fistiana," and laid unqualified claim to the proverbial "pot of gold."

He left Camden with the condescending title of "boxing's cinderella man" . . . But that's not the way he returned. He returned as the idol of millions of whites and Negroes who are convinced that he will win the title from Louis when they meet a second time in June, 1948.

Walcott's near-triumph over the once invincible Louis is a big story, one calculated to tax the imagination of millions for years to come. Behind that story, though, is another story; the story of "Jersey Joe's" rise from comparative obscurity to the position of eminence he now commands—the position that should and probably will net him a million dollars!

That's the story we will deal with in this series of articles. It's a story ringing with honesty and sincerity and abundant with pathos. It's a story that would make even the fabulous Horatio Alger stand up and take notice, and the answer to a Hollywood scenario writer's dream!

"Jersey Joe" Walcott attributes his success to hundreds of persons, some long dead and others still around to read the thousands of stories being written of the brilliant battle he waged against the champion who had polished off twenty-three challengers in a row. But among those hundreds there were two persons who really guided his destiny, and two others who helped him make a dream come true.

**LYDIA AND FELIX**

The two persons who guided his destiny were Mrs. Lydia Cream and Felix Bocchicchio.

Mrs. Lydia Cream is "Mrs. Jersey Joe" Walcott, "Jersey Joe's" attractive, brownskinned wife. Felix Bocchicchio is "Jersey Joe's" "friend indeed" and number-one advisor. He's the man who started "Jersey Joe" on the comeback that culminated in the championship fight with Louis—and dug into his pockets to the tune of nearly $50,000 to get Walcott the chance.

The other two persons who helped "Jersey Joe" make a dream come true are his manager, Joe Webster, affable, rotound restaurant owner of Camden, N. J., and Joey Allen, his trainer.

Still a fifth person is included among the exclusive friends of "Jersey Joe" Walcott, and that person is Dan Florio, New York trainer, who was Walcott's chief second in the fights with Louis, Baksi, Bivins, Oma, Ray, Maxim, Murray, Sheppard and sundry others.

"They all helped me," "Jersey Joe" said wistfully. "But Lydia and Felix were the ones who really made me stick to it when I felt like calling it quits."

**WALCOTT THE MAN**

Before digging deeper into the background of Walcott, and enumerating the trials and tribulations and heartbreaks that featured his climb to the pinnacle of fistic fame and fortune, we would like to acquaint you with "Jersey Joe" Walcott the man.

His real name is Arnold Cream. He is thirty-three, but will be thirty-four in a few months. He is about six feet tall, tips the beams at about 194, and looks like thousands of other Negro men you might pass on the street any hour of the day.

He is unassuming, loves his children, all six of them, and is very religious. He attended the Calvary Baptist Church of Merchantville, N. J., every Sunday that he can make it, and never takes the Lord's name in vain. He doesn't drink, hates night clubs, "glamour girls" and other inconsequentialities. At that, though, "Jersey Joe" isn't a prude or the equivalent of a "killjoy." He might take a few puffs on a cigar once in a great while, and loves to shoot pool and play "rummy."

He is, in reality, just an ordinary guy. That is, he's just an ordinary guy out of the prize ring. But once in the ring, he's a cool, calculating, two-fisted battler, one who knows all the tricks of the trade and can tear a man's head off with a right cross!

In the next installment we will deal with "Jersey Joe's" ring career: how he started fighting and the persons that figured in his early life as a boxer.

## CAMDEN FETES WALCOTT

Times

### City's 'Champion' Is Welcomed by Mayor, Band and Parade

New York, N.Y.

CAMDEN, N. J., Dec. 8 (AP)—Jersey Joe Walcott, who dropped a split decision to Champion Joe Louis in their heavyweight title bout at Madison Square Garden last Friday, was welcomed home officially today. Mon. Tue.

The 33-year-old Negro battler was met at the edge of the city by Mayor George E. Brunner, members of the City Commission and civic leaders. With a band showing the way, Walcott was driven through the central part of the city and then to City Hall, where, in a few thousand well-chosen words, he was lauded as "the champion" by city officials and sportsmen. 12-8-47

## Jersey Joe Walcott an Ardent Worker in Jersey Church

Times
New York, N.Y.
12-8-47
51e

MERCHANTVILLE, N.J.—Jersey Joe Walcott, being called to-day the "uncrowned heavyweight champion" by thousands who thought he deafeated champion Joe Louis in their match for the heavyweight crown in Madison Square Garden, New York, last Friday night, is a devout churchman, it has been revealed. 12-8-47

Jersey Joe, whose real name is Arnold Cream is a member of Asbury Methodist Church here, where the Rev. M. L. McKenney is pastor.

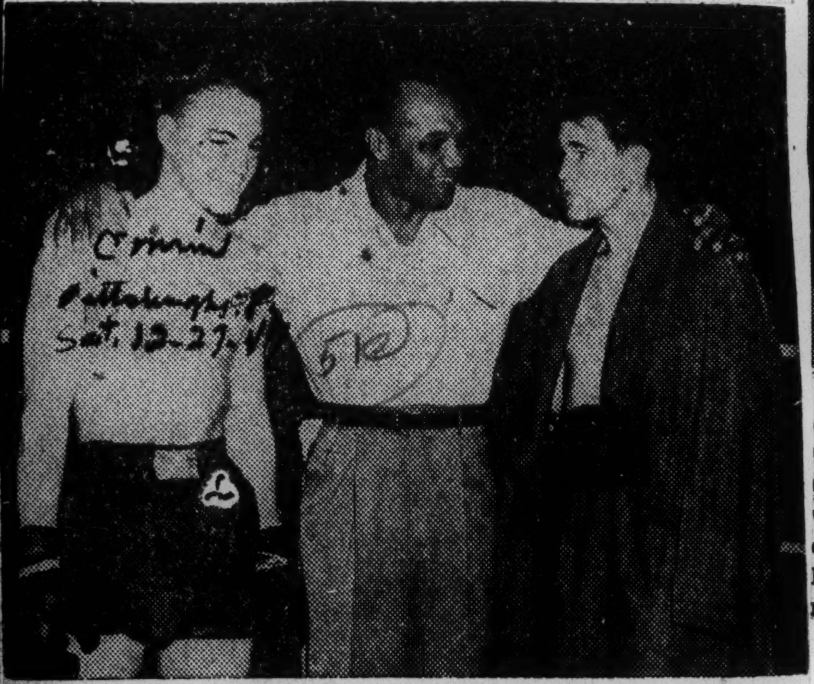
# Dr. C. B. Powell Favors Walcott For Return Bout

*Defender Chicago, Ill*
*Sat. 12-27-47*

NEW YORK -- Dr. C. B. Powell, newspaper publisher, insurance executive and a Harvard graduate as well as member of the New York State Boxing Commission, said he would insist that Jersey Joe Walcott be given a return bout with Joe Louis, the world champion. *12-27-47*

Dr. Powell said he was opposed to Gus Lesnevich, world light-heavyweight champion meeting Louis in a title match.

He said he thought Walcott's performance was the best of the 24 challengers who have sought to lift Louis' title.



**POPULAR 'THIRD MAN'**—When Jersey Joe Walcott acted as referee in the scrap between punching Pete Zaduck, left, and Bruce Richardson, in Toronto, was the first time in Canada's history that a sepia fighter served as the third man in the ring.

# Walcott Makes Hit In Canadian Debut

*Courier, Pittsburgh Pa*
*12-27-47*

**By SAM MALTIN**
**(Special to The Courier)**

TORONTO — For the first time in the history of Canadian boxing a Negro referee officiated in a major boxing show here Monday when Jersey Joe Walcott acted as third man in a scrap between Punching Pete Zaduck and Bruce Richardson, two white boxers.

This marked Walcott's first visit to Canada and his first public appearance since his fight with Joe Louis.

Still unaccustomed to the great public acclaim that his showing against the world heavyweight boxing champion has won him, Jersey Joe was somewhat self-conscious as he stepped around the two scrappers and grinned all through the fight.

He was a hit everywhere he went, visiting veteran hospitals, where the bed-ridden patients gave him a noisy ovation, numerous press conferences and six radio interviews.

**TALKS OVER RADIO**

He spoke over the loud-speaking system at the fights, telling the crowd that he thought that the judges at his recent Madison Square Garden fight, saw the fight with their "hearts and not their eyes."

Veteran sports writers "went for him." One of them wrote: "He talks quietly, slowly and is obviously sincere that you can't help but like him."

Associated Press Wirephoto.

**A KNOCKOUT** of a welcome was extended Jersey Joe Walcott by Camden admirers when he returned home. Walcott is greeted by Mayor George Brunner (left) as Joe Webster, manager of Walcott, looks on.

# I'm Going to Win The Title --Walcott

*Courier Pittsburgh Pa.*
*Sat. 11-22-47*

GRENLOCH, N. J. — "The Joe Louis bug bit me about the time I whipped Joe Baksi nine out of ten rounds in a Camden ring on Aug. 2, 1945," Jersey Joe Walcott, challenger for the heavyweight title, disclosed last week.

"It bit me pretty hard, too, and I mentioned getting a fight with the champion to my manager, Joe Webster, but he said one word 'Wait.'

**HE'S CONVINCED**

"I was convinced I could beat Joe after I belted Jimmy Bivins around at Cleveland on Feb. 25, 1946, scoring a knockdown in the eighth round. People tell me that the beating I gave Bivins practically finished him as a headliner.

"Again I asked Webster to get me Louis This time he said he would try. Well, he did. And now I am mighty grateful to him because I know and feel deep in my heart that I will lick him the night of Dec. 5 in the Madison Square Garden ring.

**PLENTY CONFIDENCE**

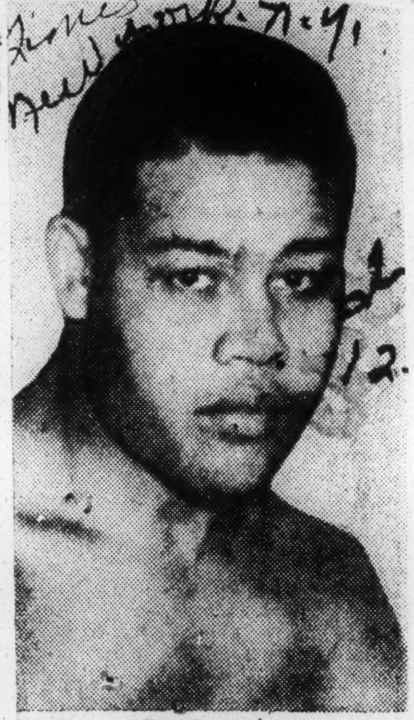
"I have all the confidence in the world. I will be in marvelous condition, weighing 192 or thereabouts. Many people, and there is no mystery about it, say I will 'freeze' like a lot of other Louis opponents. That's a lot of bunk.

"Fighting is my business. I'm going in there to do or die. I've waited too long for a crack at the heavyweight title to let the title escape me now. Louis can be beaten and I'm the one who can do it. Don't forget Louis hasn't had a real fight in six years and he won't be so sharp. You can throw out his fights with Conn and Mauriello last year. They didn't call for much fighting

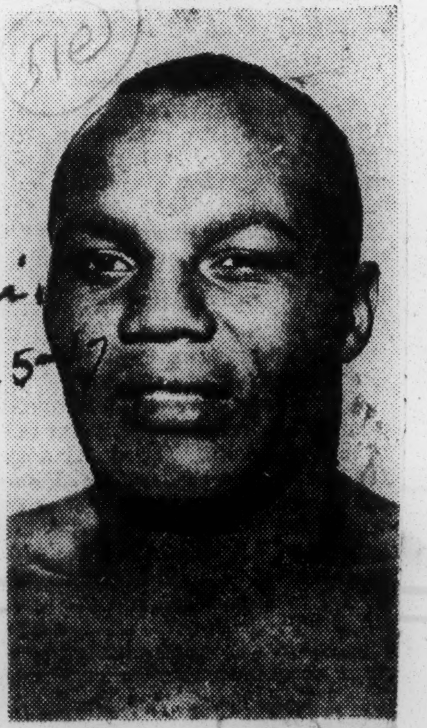
"For the first time in years Louis will know he's been in a fight after we square off. I love that championship business and I'm going to get it. I know every new titleholder says he's going to be a fighting champion. Well, I won't be champion until the night of Dec. 5, but I say now I'll give any worthy challenger a chance at the crown."

**HEAVYWEIGHTS WHO MEET IN TITLE BOUT**

*Times New York N.Y.*



Joe Louis



Jersey Joe Walcott

The New York Times

51e 1947

Jersey Joe Walcott

# Walcott Wins Easily

Courier-Journal
Wed 3-5-47

Miami, Fla., March 4 (AP)—Jersey Joe Walcott of Camden, N. J., woon an easy 10-round decision over Elmer "Violent" Ray of Hastings, Fla., before a crowd of 8,077 in the Orange Bowl here tonight.

Louisville Ky.

Ray went down in the first, third and fourth but bounced back before the count could start.

Ray, prior to the fight, had been unbeaten for two years and had won 50 of his last 51 fights by knockouts. Ray won a decision from Walcott last November in Madison Square Garden, and in an earlier meeting, Walcott was knocked out by the Hastings Negro. Wed-3-5-47

It was announced from the ring that the winner would seek a fight with world heavyweight champion Joe Louis, probably in June.

Ray weighed 194¾ and Walcott 192½.

Afro American
Baltimore Md. Sat. 5-24-47

**FAMILY AFFAIR—Jersey Joe Walcott, who is being hailed as a challenger for Joe Louis's heavyweight crown, poses with his family at their Camden, N.J., home. Front row are Doris and Ruthie; second row, Arnold, Pop Walcott, Vincent, Edna and Lydia, the boxer's wife. In the back stands, Alda.** Sat. 5-24-47

# Joe Walcott Wins 10-Round Decision Over Joey Maxim

Daily World

By EPHRAM BAINES

Atlanta, Ga.

HOLLYWOOD— (NPB)— Crooner Farnk Sinatra's bow as a prize fight promoter and the Hollywood Madison Square Garden's ditto here Monday night the Gilmore Stadium Bowl under the arcs, although long from proving either a financial success, or a fistic epic, nonethe-less produced something for the 10,000 more or less fans to howl over. Sat. 6-28-47

The 'voice' Sinatra had on hand for his stellar attraction two easterners, neither of whom had appeared on the coast before. Jersey Joe Walcott and Joey Maxim, a Cleveland heavyweight. The fight, a 10 round affair, was billed as a top elimination contest, the winner to meet World's Champion, Joe Louis next September.

As an added crowd attraction, Joe Louis, himself appeared on the card in a four round exhibition contest. Well, Jersey Joe won out over Maxim after 10 rounds of the poorest exhibition witnessed here in any ring between top seeded fighters in years and years. Perhaps, never before witnessed. The thing was that tame. Sat. 6-28-47

## *Heywood Hale Broun*

# Walcott Knows Spoiler's Art

P.M.

I'll be vastly surprised if Joe Wolcott emerges as heavyweight champion on the night of December 5, but I won't be surprised if he makes a pretty fair fight of it against Joe Louis.

Walcott is neither a murderous hitter nor a flashy boxer, but in his many years in the ring he has learned the spoiler's art to perfection.

Spoilers seldom look like world beaters themselves but they often succeed in making their opponents look so foolish that their own lack of brilliance doesn't matter.

Jim Braddock was, in his later years, a textbook example of a spoiler. In his prime Jim was not considered very bright as a fighter. He was more than a little right hand crazy and an appetizing dish for a good boxer.

Jim had time to consider the error of his ways while pushing bales around as a stevedore, and when he got a second chance he did his work with his head.

***Cheers Don't Buy Groceries*** 11-3-47

His bout with Max Baer was probably as well planned as any fight you can name. It was also pretty dull, but Braddock had passed the stage where he was trying to earn cheers. He had found that they couldn't hear these roars down at the grocery. Monday

Concentrating on the weaknesses in Baer's style, Jim plodded to victory by staying ahead for one minute, 31 seconds of eight of the 15 rounds. During the last round, with the fight safely tucked away, he contented himself with following Baer around the ring, his head plastered against Maxie's chest where nothing could hit it except the champ's heartbeat.

Against Tommy Farr, nearly his equal as a spoiler, Jim drew the edge even closer, winning five of the ten rounds with one even.

He didn't succeed in spoiling Louis but he went eight rounds with Joe and floored him once, and that was ten years ago when Joe was young and hungry.

***Walcott's Career Like Braddock's***

Walcott's career is a good deal like Braddock's. He, too, has been out of the fight business and is making a borrowed-time comeback. He's not as fast or as strong or as anxious to slug it out as he was as a youngster but he's learned a lot of lessons and he knows he hasn't got much time left to apply them. He's not likely to forget them under the goading of a blood-hungry crowd.

In Louis' two bouts since coming out of the service, he has not met a fighter of his type. Billy Conn, who had a fatal weakness for slugging it out in his pre-war fight with Joe, tried the crafty dodge, but he didn't know enough to make it work. It takes a lot of little fights where the purse is needed to feed a family and a lot of brooding and worrying to pick up that kind of knowledge. 11-3-47

Tami Mauriello tried an all or nothing basis and trying this sort of thing against Joe Louis always leads to nothing. He got the first two bars on the jackpot and a photograph of a staggered champion for his scrapbook, but the big lemon exploded in his face a moment later. Monday

***Cold Stare May Undo Walcott***

Of course, there is always the possibility that all of Walcott's schemes will evaporate when he stares into the cold, concentrated features of the champion. Some fairly placid workmen have found their wits being picked apart by that hypnotic stare.

Still, Tommy Farr stood up under it for 15 rounds and made it close. Walcott may do the same.

Certainly it is unfair to make fun of the bout as many experts have done. Walcott seems the best man available to fight Louis at the moment. He's beaten most of the other contenders and waited a long time for his shot. He had to sit it out while Joe fought Mauriello who looked less impressive off the records than the old Jersey battler.

It's probable that he's had to wait too long and that there isn't quite enough left in the old legs and arms to carry out the orders of his ring-wise brain against a man as good as Louis. Win or lose, however, he'll probably teach Louis a few lessons to use in his old age.

# Jersey Joe Camp Is Ultra Modern

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 11-1-47

He'll See Family No More Until Dec. 5

CAMDEN—The newest training camp to rise in the state was set up recently by Jersey Joe Walcott, challenger for the heavyweight boxing crown, in Grenloch, a small community about 12 miles from here.

Jersey Joe left his wife and six children at home at 329 Mickle St., on Saturday to do light training for his battle against Joe Louis. He doesn't plan to see his family again until the morning after the fight. 11-1-47

His camp is reputed to be better equipped than any other training site in the state.

**Well Equipped**

An outdoor ring with new padding covered with canvas is about a half block from his sleeping quarters. Sat. 11-1-47

The camp also is equipped with new punching bag stands, new rubbing tables and new mats for abdominal exercises. For road work he will use a winding lane through the countryside.

That site, Joe explained, puts him close to nature with everything to reach the best physical condition of his career.

Mrs. Walcott, incidentally, has enrolled in a business course at Temple University, Philadelphia.

Jersey Joe firmly believes that Louis can't go on winning all the time, and that he will be capable of dethroning the champion on Dec. 5.

GRENLOCH, N. J., Nov. 13 (AP)—After watching Jersey Joe Walcott work nine rounds today in preparation for his title fight with Joe Louis, Manager Joe Webster announced that he "is getting down too fine, so I've decided to lay him off tomorrow."

"The fight is more than three weeks away, and I don't want him to leave his fight in the gym," Webster said. "From time to time I'll have him take a rest, but in the last two weeks he'll go to it hammer and tongs."

Walcott concentrated on a body attack in the six rounds he boxed today, going two rounds each with Austin Johnson, Leroy Haynes and Eddie Wilson. The challenger also skipped rope for two rounds and punched a bag for one round after four miles of roadwork this morning. New York, N.Y.

# Jersey Joe Is Treated Like King In Camp

Chicago Ill. Defender 11-15-47

By FRANCIS ALBARTANTI

GRENLOCH, N. J.—To this teeming fight metropolis, Jersey Joe Walcott is king.

His manager, Joe Webster, has dug deep into his pockets to create a training camp which stands out as one of the best in boxing history. He has remodeled the indoor gym to seat some 750 spectators.

Walcott has been provided with ample living quarters. And there is a telephone in his room so that he can call his wife and six children in Camden whenever the mood dictates.

Webster has retained, at a fancy figure, a special cook who watches over Walcott with all the tenderness of a mother looking after her child. 11-15-47

**APPARENTLY** a man with an eye for detail, the manager has also bought an abundant supply of games for the evening's long hours. There are darts, checkers, chess, a billiard table. But the heavyweight contender prefers a game of gin-rummy for relaxation and the other games are beginning to gather dust. Sat.

The expenditures don't end there, of course. Webster has hired some of the best sparring partners, at substantial salaries. It is also his rule that sparmates eat at the same table with Jersey Joe.

* * *

**THE OTHER DAY** a burly fellow in blue appeared at the training camp and announced that he had been hired by Joe Webster as the night watchman. He is a private policeman whose duties it will be to patrol the camp from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. when the fighter hits the road.

The idea behind all these expenditures is simple. Webster is giving Walcott every possible opportunity to whip himself into the best condition of his career for what is the most important fight of his career.

There is a bit of psychology attached to it, too. He wants to show Jersey Joe that the life of a heavyweight champion can be one of luxury as well as hard wor-

# WALCOTT NEEDS SECRET WEAPON

Atlanta Constitution

By WHITNEY MARTIN

**NEW YORK, Dec. 3—(AP)—Unless Jersey Joe Walcott has developed a secret weapon, such as a fragmentation bomb which can be concealed in a glove, we fear he is in for a rather rough evening Friday night at Madison Square Garden.** 12-4-47 Thrus.

**Jersey Joe, whose square name is Arnold Cream, meets Joe Louis in a championship bout which grew from an exhibition affair, and although heroic efforts have been made to build up a case for the affable challenger, the efforts have fallen rather flat. It would have been better to build a case to protect him.**

## RICE RATES LOUIS OVER NOTRE DAME

# Joe Walcott, Southern Cal To Battle Rugged Opponents

Atlanta, Ga. Constitution

By GRANTLAND RICE
North American Newspaper Alliance

NEW YORK, Dec. 3—Jersey Joe Walcott and Southern California have two rugged assignments this weekend. One has to meet Joe Louis, and the other faces Notre Dame. Joe Louis and Notre Dame are not two opponents I'd care to meet in a dark alley, or anywhere else. Neither is invincible, but they will do until something more invincible comes along. Michigan might be the answer in one case—but there is no substitute for Joe Louis in sight right now.

Most of the coaches East and West with whom I have talked are confident the Wolverines could handle the Irish, through what they consider a much better backfield, headed by Chappius and Elliott. They concede Notre Dame the better line. We want no part of this argument, however, so please don't write. Thrus.

Since there is no other way to decide the issue, Southern California has kindly consented to be the guinea pig. There is, of course, the chance that Southern California might rise up and beat both. But I don't believe the Trojans have the speed to beat either.

Both Notre Dame and Michigan are well supplied with fast backs who can move in a hurry and throw the ball. Lujack and Chappius are two lads who can wreck you through the air if you bar the way along the ground. I doubt that Southern California can stop either along the ground, although the loss of Terry Brennan won't help Notre Dame a bit. Terry, next to Lujack, was the best man on Frank Leahy's squad.

Southern California has a big, experienced line that isn't any too fast. The Trojan lineup has a number of good backs, but no great ones. The Trojans also have two fine ends. It is the type of team that, well keyed up, can furnish trouble to anyone. The manpower is there in abundance.

So far, the Western defenders have shown neither the alertness nor the speed to beat two such teams as Notre Dame and Michigan. The UCLA game proved this point, a game Southern California barely won and might easily have lost by sounder UCLA quarterbacking on the four-yard line.

It is a tough break for a team to go this far unbeaten and suddenly, after turning the corner, find Notre Dame and Michigan in the road.

Notre Dame scouts that I have talked to are picking Notre Dame to win by something like 21 to 0. Any score approaching this result would take quite an edge off the Rose Bowl game, compared to the other three major bowls, all high-class shows. 12-4-47

**USC Gets Break**

Southern California enjoys one happy break. It doesn't face as hard an assignment as Joe Walcott tackles. Beating Notre Dame is not impossible, but beating Joe Louis has been impossible for ten years. I can't recall any football team that has gone unbeaten for ten years.

If anything has happened to slow up Louis, if time has taken any part of its expected toll, Louis hasn't shown it. He has looked better in training than he looked to be before either the Conn or the Mauriello undertakings. He seems to be both mentally and physically keener. He is punching and boxing as well as he ever did and, unless Walcott can find some opening for a stunning punch, in the wake of a mad gamble, he looks to outclass Jersey Joe.

Pacific Coast football has been at a low ebb for several seasons. It was at a record ebb in 1945 and 1946 when Alabama and Illinois turned the Rose Bowl into something known as a shambles. Neither game was a contest.

The West Coast has come back a certain distance, but hardly far enough to be what it was under the guidance of Pop Warner, Howard Jones, Jimmy Phelan and Buck Shaw. Howard Jones never lost a Rose Bowl game. They are just as big out there as they used to be, but they don't seem to be fast or as alert. But you can't blame all of this on the coaches. There has also been a slump in material. 12-4-47

A Southern California victory would knock this estimate cock-eyed, and it could happen to an inspired Trojan squad. It may be that this big Southern California team, in a savage defense of the prestige of West Coast football, will outplay itself against two better opponents and supply the football world with an upset.

Jersey Joe Walcott has no such opening. He is meeting a fine boxer and a deadly puncher with either hand, an opponent who has a big edge in both departments of the ring game. He is giving away something like 15 pounds and he has no exuberant youth to call on.

Jersey Joe is in a much rougher spot than Southern California is. He will need the miracle of all miracles to win, where the Trojan outfit will only need part of a miracle—maybe a one-third or one-half. It would be no great shock if Southern California beat Notre Dame. But a Walcott victory would rock the foundations of sport, and make every form player throw away the past-performance sheet.

In both cases it is largely a matter of the number of rounds—and the final score. How many rounds —how big a score? At least this is what the so-called, if any, smart ones are now working on.

What about four rounds for the fight and 14 to 0 for the football game, Louis and Notre Dame being the two favorites? This seems to be a trifle on the conservative side, but with Terry Brennan missing, the South Bend simoon loses part of its gusty force.

# WALCOTT WINDS UP

Daily Worker

GRENLOCH, N. J., Dec. 2 (UP).—Jersey Joe Walcott completed his training today for Friday's heavyweight title fight with champion Joe Louis and his manager, Joe Webster, was quick to announce that the challenger was "ready and fit." New York, N.Y.

Walcott boxed three fast rounds with elongated Eddie Franklin, stinging his spar mate with an assortment of punches. 12-3-47

# Scores Knockout in 4th Round at Garden

*Afro-American*

*Baltimore, Md. Sat. 6-28-47*

## Scheduled to Meet Montgomery in Philadelphia to Clear Title Muddle

**NEW YORK—NBA lightweight champ Ike Williams of Trenton, N.J., Friday night proved that he is a puncher and packs plenty of dynamite in either duke.**

The knockout specialist kayoed Tippy Larkin of Garfield, N.J., recognized as junior welterweight champion in Massachusetts, in 1 minute and 44 seconds of the fourth round of a scheduled 10-round bout in Madison Square Garden. *Sat. 6-28-47*

Larkin, who had lost only three decisions in more than 125 fights, fought a shrewd, slick and resourceful battle throughout the first two rounds.

**Ike Starts Slowly**

Williams, starting s l o w l y, dropped the opening heats, but warmed up in the third round and began to show his boxing skill by having Larkin bewildered as he went back to his corner.

As the fourth opened, Williams began brushing up his Sunday punches on Larkin's whiskers and ribs.

With the round scarcely a minute old, he caught Larkin tippin in and dynamite began to explode on Tippy's chin, with power-punches softening up his midsection.

**Tees Off on Chin**

In a split second, Ike teed-off on the Garfield Gunner's jaw and Larkin hit the deck. He took advantage of the nine-count and regained his feet.

Ike threw another flurry of punches, the last a right hook flush on the button, folding up Tippy for a second time.

Referee Eddie Joseph counted the full 10, but he could have saved his breath. Larkin was out colder than the proverbial mackerel. *Sat. 6-28-47*

Williams weighed 136¼ pounds, Larkin 141.

**To Face Bobcat Next**

The bout proved to be a tune-up for Williams, who meets Bob Montgomery, recognized as lightweight champion in Pennsylvania and New York, August 4 at the Municipal Stadium in the Quaker City in a 15-round battle of champions.

In addition to Larkin Williams recently knocked out Juste Fontaine and Frankie Conti and decisioned Ralph Zannelli and Willie Russell.

A pre-battle favorite of 2-1 over Larkin, Ike is currently favored at 11-10 over Montgomery.

# Ike Williams Stops Tippy Larkin In Fourth Round

*Atlanta, Ga. Daily World*

*Thurs. 6-26-47*

NEW YORK—(NNPA)—Ike Williams, the National Boxing Association's lightweight champ, knocked out Tippy Larkin, claimant to the junior welterweight title, at Madison Square Garden last Friday night after one minute and forty-four seconds of fighting in the fourth round of their scheduled ten-round bout.

After being outboxed by the classy Larkin in the first two rounds, Williams, a slugger knocked Tippy out with the first three right hand blows which landed in the fight.

So effective was Williams' knockout blow that Larkin after being counted out by the referee, rose to his feet and fell again when he attempted to go to his dressing room.

**SHIFTS ATTACK**

*Thurs. 6-26-47*

Larkin, entering the ring on the short end of 14-5 odds, had planned to go the route with the NBA champion by out-boxing him. His plan worked beautifully in the first two rounds and held him in good stead in the third, but in the fourth Williams shifted his attack from Larkin's body to his jaw and it was only a matter of seconds before the end came.

When they came out for the fourth Williams was all action. Ignoring Larkin's lefts to his face he landed solidly on Tipy's jaw with three hard rights.

Larkin stayed on his feet after the first, but was too dazed even to hold on. When the second right landed on his jaw he went down face first, apparently out. He did not move until the count of six but surprised the crowd of 9,110 fans by struggling to his feet at the count of nine.

He surprised Wiliams even more when he refused to hold and moved forward throwing a stream of punches, but Ike shot across his third right hand blow of the evening to Tippy's jam and he went down for the full count.

After the fight Larkin said he would rest a couple of months before returning to competion.

Williams had two stitches taken in a cut over his left eye following the fight. *Thurs. 6-26-47*

Williams weighed 136¼, Larken 141. The fight grossed $45,014.

# Williams by KO in Six Rounds

*The Afro American*

*Baltimore, Md.*

## Wins Lightweight Title From Bob Montgomery

*Sat. 8-9-47*

**By SAM LACY, Sports Editor**

**PHILADELPHIA — A straight right and to the chin of Bob Montgomery after two minutes and 37 seconds of the sixth round gave Ike Williams the undisputed world's lightweight championship before an estimated 38,000 crowd at the Sesqui-Centennial stadium here Monday night.**

**The Trenton N.J., youngster thus merged his NBA and the New York-Pennsylvania crown of the wiley Bobcat to win recognition as king of the world's 135-pounders.**

**Birthday Celebration**

**It was a belated celebration of the new champion's twenty-fourth birthday which was passed on Aug. 2.**

**A telling blow was a crashing right to the chin, but Montgomery, game to the core, climbed to his feet at the count of nine and withstood a barrage of rights and lefts —thirteen in all—while crouched in Williams' corner, and before going down the second time to be counted out by Referee Charlie Daggert.** *Sat. 8-9-47*

**At the end, Williams was ahead in three rounds on the AFRO's sport card with one round, the fifth, going to Montgomery, and other called even.**

# WILLIAMS SCORES KNOCKOUT VICTORY

## Halts Montgomery in a Battle for the Lightweight Crown at Municipal Stadium

*Times-New York, N.Y.*

## BOUT ENDS IN 6TH ROUND

*Tues. 8-5-47*

## Johnson Easily Earns Verdict Over Pinel—Cuccinotta Is Winner in 1st Session

**By JAMES P. DAWSON**

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 4—Ike Williams of Trenton, N. J., gained undisputed possession of the lightweight title tonight by scoring a knockout victory over Bob Montgomery of Philadelphia in a bout scheduled for fifteen rounds at the Municipal Stadium.

Williams won by a knockout in 2:37 of the sixth round.

Promoter Herman Taylor estimated the crowd ata 40,000 and the receipts at close to $200,000, after closing the advance sale with $150,000 in the exchequer.

This second meeting of Montgomery and Williams found the men equal favorites at odds of 5 to 6. *Times-New York N.Y.*

Gov. James H. Duff of Pennsylvania and Gov. Alfred E. Driscoll of New Jersey were at the ringside. Abe J. Greene, NBA president and newly appointed New Jersey Boxing Commissioner, was also present. *Tues. 8-5-47*

Montgomery and Williams each weighed 133¾ pounds, well below the 135-pound class maximum and lower than Montgomery ever has been for a championship fray. Indeed, the New York title-holder was so surprised at the weight he went back on the scales for a retake as a convincer.

Williams was late for the weighing, and in fairness to Montgomery, Chairman Leon Raines of the Pennsylvania State Athletic Commission let the Philadelphian weigh alone. Immediately following the weighing Montgomery fortified himself with a thermos bottle of hot beef broth.

**Daggert is Referee**

The referee was Charley Daggert. The judges were Harry Lasky and Frank Knarsborough.

Williams kept Montgomery at bay through most of the first round with an etxended left, which he worked tirelessly to the face. Montgomery fought to get past the barrier and work close to pound the body, but seldom was successful. Near the end of the round Williams cut loose with a volley of powerful left hooks and right crosses at the jaw, but many missed. *8-5-47*

*Tues.* **Sulla Beats Proctor**

With rain threatening, the card got under way promptly at 8:30 P. M. Jimmy Sulla, Philadelphia featherweight, pounded out a decision over Billy Proctor of Harrisburg in the opening bout of six rounds. Sulla closed with a tireless assault to earn the award. The victor weighed 128 pounds and Proctor 119. *Tues. 8-5-47*

In the second six-round bout Nunzio Carto, local lightweight, gained the decision over Johnny Proccia, New Yorker. This battle, too, was crowded with action which satisfied the large crowd. Carto's steady work in the attack and his cleaner punching entitled him to the verdict. He weighed 134½ pounds and Proccia 138½.

Hirold Jihnson, Manayunk, Pa., light-heavyweight, had an easy time taking the decision over Al Pinel of New Bedford, Mass., in their six-round bout. Pinel spent too much time clowning to do any fighting, with the consequence that Johnson had no trouble winning every round. Johnson weighed 166 pounds and Pinel 160.

In a scheduled four-round bout Joe Cuccinotta, local featherweight, knocked out Wesley Mason, another local lad, in forty-one second of the first round. A right to the jaw finished Mason. Cuccinotta weighed 119½ pounds and Mason 126½.

# Williams Gives Pellone Savage Beating to Take Decision

PM, New York, N.Y.

Sun, 12-12-47

Ike Williams, sharp-punching lightweight champion, gave Tony Pellone a savage beating in a 10-round non-title fight at Madison Square Garden Friday night, nearly stopping the rugged welterweight in the closing rounds. The decision of the officials, for a change, was unanimous. Williams weighed 139¾, Pellone 145¼. Fri.

Pellone was a sad sight toward the end of the one-sided fray, bleeding from eye, nose and mouth and sustained only by his fighting heart. Williams, who entered the ring a 5 to 11 favorite, tried to measure his heavier opponent repeatedly in the ninth and tenth rounds but couldn't put him down.

Two of the three officials, referee Frank Fullam and judge Joe Agnello, gave Williams all 10 rounds. Judge Harold Barnes thought Pellone deserved two rounds, the first and third, but gave the other eight to the Negro champion. PM, New York, N.Y.

A crowd of 12,089 paid $55,114 to witness the affair. 12-12-47

From the fifth round on it was only a question of whether Pellone, who has been regarded as a comer in the welterweight division, could weather the storm of blows rained on him by Williams. The referee looked him over carefully between the ninth and tenth chapters, and reluctantly consented to let him stay around for the finish.

By the seventh Pellone's left eye and nose were bleeding. In the eighth he took a bad beating and was staggered twice.

The final two rounds saw Williams do everything except score his sixth straight knockout.

51f 1947

Baseball

**W. ROLLO WILSON: Macks Want No Negroes**

Pittsburgh Courier

PHILADELPHIA—You can bet all of the corn in Iowa that the last club in the Major Leagues to sign a sundown star will be Connie Mack's Athletics. Mack has never extended any press courtesies to Negro writers and still continues that policy, with colored players arriving in the league. And he is said to have bitterly opposed any statement of policy by the American League regarding the possible integration of Negroes when Landis was the commissioner.

The Phillies have announced that they will sign any man whom they need, regardless of color (and they were not asked the direct question either!) but you will never hear, or read of, Connie Mack making such a forthright assertion.

Major League baseball also needs a house-cleaning—getting rid of its bigots. The Macks should sell their club to the Gimbels, who are reported to be making fabulous offers for it, or to some other liberal group. We could stand for another Bill Veeck or another Branch Rickey in our fair city. Sat 7-19-47

51f 1947 Basketball

# Slandering of CCNY Stars Irks Metropolitan Liberals

Afro-Am Baltimore, Md. Sat. 1-11-47 51f

NEW YORK—A boycott of University of Wyoming basketball teams so long as they are tutored by Everett Shelton, their race-baiting coach, appeared a virtual certainty here early this week.

The ban against Shelton-coached teams became likely as the New York Basketball Writers Association and several liberal organizations aligned themselves with Nat Holman, City College of New York mentor, in a determined move to punish Shelton for directing derogatory remarks toward Joe Galiber and Sonny Jameson, and for also insulting two Jewish players on the CCNY team, during the December 28 game. Sat. 1-11-47

Holman, former star of the Original Celtics and many times an opponent of the Renaissance Lo-endi and Spartan clubs, approached Shelton during the game and protested vigorously against the Westerner's anti-racial remarks. Once, he attempted to throw a punch at the Wyoming tutor but was restrained by Coach Joe Lapchick of St. John's, who was standing nearby.

It marked the first time in the history of big-time basketball at the Garden that race-hatred had entered into the proceedings. Teams from all sections of the country have performed there and frequently colleges from the South opposed teams with colored stars.

**Holman Liberal**

Holman, who has long been known for his fairness in dealing with all races was incensed. He demanded an explanation from Shelton at the game's end and stated that he intended to ask CCNY President Harry N. Wright to file formal protest with the president of the University of Wyoming.

Shelton could see nothing wrong with what he had done. "I've been accustomed to games in which players are referred to by race," he declared. "I once played with a team of Swedish players and they called us 'Swedes,' and we saw nothing wrong with it."

At the Basketball Writers dinner the following day, Shelton declined to apologize or to admit his wrongdoing. He simply repeated his earlier explanation and let it go at that.

City College players reported that, in addition to Shelton's actions, Wyoming players continually harrassed Galiber and Jameson during the contest.

Holman, hearing this, observed: "We coaches are supposed to be leaders, teachers of young men. We're handling growing boys and we do have an influence on them. For a coach to make derogatory remarks about members of another faith right in front of the players on his own bench certainly isn't the spirit of sportsmanship. I don't want to sound corny, but we fought a war because of that type of thing.

"I told Shelton I was just as anxious to win the game as he was, but that I certainly thought no game was worth bringing up any religious issues. He must have been pretty sore after losing to UCLA in Buffalo and then saw himself facing another defeat in our game."

The CCNY tutor threatened to bring the matter before the American Coaches Association at their meeting in March and ask for Shelton's ouster.

# Kans. U. Coach Would Accept Negroes On Basketball Team

51f Chicago Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 6-7-47

LAWRENCE, Kan. —(ANP)— A University of Kansas coach found no objection last week to Negro students on the school's basketball team, thereby adding new fuel to an already burning campus controversy of an "unwritten law" in the Big Six conference, which bars Negroes from conference athletic competition. Sat. 6-7-47

Dr. Forrest C. Allen, basketball coach at the university, denied a statement that he said Negroes would be allowed to try out for his team "on an equal basis" with white students, but added:

"I see no reason why there should be any restriction on their trying out for the team."

Dr. Allen explained that "no specific policy has been set on the issue yet." Meanwhile, E. C. Quigley, director of athletics, said he, not Allen, made the statement that Negroes would be permitted to try out for the team "on an equal basis." The statement appeared in a student letter published in The Daily Kansan. Sat. 6-7-47

University officials have been petitioned by several student groups to allow Negroes to participate in school athletic competition.

# Duquesne Again Says 'No Jimcrow'

Daily Worker N.Y., N.Y.

Sat. 1-11-47

**A second kayo over jimcrow was scored by Duquesne University yesterday, when its president cancelled next Wednesday's outdoor basketball game with Miami University because of the Police Department ruling which bans mixed competition in the city of Miami. This was a logical follow-up of Duquesne's action last Dec. 23 in refusing to let its hoopsters take the floor against Tennessee University when the southern school demanded that Duquesne's Negro star, Charlie Cooper, be kept on the bench.**

Sat. 1-11-47

**At that time, the Duquesne U. officials indicated that it would take similar steps if Miami tried to enforce its Jimcrow edict in the scheduled Orange Bowl hoop tilt. When the Florida school sent just such a request to Duquesne two days ago, the Pennsylvania college promptly cancelled the game.**

**Hats Off—Duquesne!**

## The Color Line In Sports

Courier-Journal

A few days ago someone disagreed with your editorial on the unsportsmanship of John Mauer of Tennessee for refusing to let his basketball team play Duquesne, because the latter had a Negro on the team. I think you are exactly right and hope you still stick to your guns and not back up. According to a recent sports story, the University of Cincinnati was handicapped in its game with the University of Kentucky because Kentucky would not permit the University of Cincinnati to use its star Negro player in the game. Louisville, Ky.

If Southern teams are not willing to let Northern teams use their strongest line-ups, which at times include Negroes, then the Southerners should quit playing the Northerners. FAIR SPORT FOR ALL.

Frankfort, Ky. Sun. 1-12-47

*A similar view is expressed in a letter from C. M. Knight of Jeffersonville, Ind.—(Editor.*

# UAW Urges No Letup Against ABC Jimcrow

Daily Worker New York N.Y.

By William Allan

DETROIT, May 22.—The American Bowling Congress at its recent convention in Los Angeles, California, turned down the demand of the UAW-CIO and other organizations to wipe out its policy of Jimcrow in bowling. A UAW delegation appealed to the ABC's Executive Board to establish a no discrimination policy covering all bowlers, Negro and white, Chinese, Japanese and Hawaiians.

Members of the UAW who are sanctioned ABC bowlers presented the demand along with members of the Catholic Youth Organization. Not only did the ABC Executive turn down the request of the delegation but refused to recognize Hawaiian bowlers.

On April 1st the UAW together with other national organizations set up a National Committee for Fair Play in Bowling. This committee set itself the task of organizing regional committees in every bowling center in the United States. A number of non-labor groups are participating.

The UAW Fair Practices Committee points up in a story, this discrimination as is evident everywhere, of ABC's discriminatory policies:

**Gim Chan Wong is a member of the UAW-CIO-local 77. He is a citizen of the United States, born in Beloit, Wisconsin. Gim served in the Army in World War II and later in the occupation forces, most of the time in the Philippines.**

Before Gim went in the Army he was a bowler on a UAW team. No one from the ABC questioned his right to an ABC card when the war was on. Besides he carries a good average and the present practioners of discrimination in the ABC figured it would be unpopular to raise the issue that Gim was Chinese. The constitution of the ABC says a bowler is not eligible to bowl unless he is of the white race.

**But then Gim came back home. His UAW local welcomed him. So did his bowling team. Then one day, three months after Gim's discharge, a letter came from Milwaukee with fifty cents enclosed, saying that he would not be eligible to ABC tournament play in Green Bay, Wisconsin.**

Richard T. Leonard, chairman of the UAW's Fair Practices Committee said the continued jimcrow ban in bowling must serve as a battlecry to continue the fight on an ever-larger scale. And this fight must not only be restricted to the labor movement, Leonard declared:

**"We need the help of all progressive organizations and newspaper men who work, particularly on the sports pages of our big dailies, in order to break through on this. In professional football, Jimcrowism has taken a licking. Jackie Robinson's playing for the Brooklyn Dodgers stimulates the spreading fight for democracy in sports. Let's carry this over to bowling and win that battle, too."** Fri 5-23-47

5-23-47 Fri

# ABC Keeps Its Color Ban

Chicago Defender Chicago, Ill. 51f

LOS ANGELES—A proposal to open the membership in the American Bowling Congress to other than the Caucasian race was rejected last Friday by delegates to the annual convention of the American Bowling Congress.

The proposal was submitted first to the executive committeemen of the Congress last Tuesday by William H. Oliver, co-director of the UAW-CIO fair praictices and anti-discrimination department. Oliver asked the committeemen to remove the restrictions against Negro bowlers.

Sat 5-3-47

**THE COMMITTEEMEN** submitted their recommendations to the delegates Friday.

The proposal submitted by Oliver had been drafted at a conference held April 1 in Chicago.

Efforts have been made in the past to break the racial discrimination practices by the ABC. Last year in Buffalo, during the ABC convention Negro veterans picketed the meeting. However, the delegates remained adamant in their rule to bar Negro bowlers.

# Game Off; Race Issue Seen Cause

Const. Atlanta, Ga. Constitution,

DELAWARE, Ohio, Nov. 23—(AP) Pres. C. E. Ficken, of Ohio Wesleyan University, Saturday night disclosed cancellation of the football game between Wesleyan and Rollins College at Orlando, Fla., next Friday "for an unforseen and unavoidable cause."

The cancellation, said Pres. Ficken, came from Dean Wendell C. Stone, of Rollins College, just two hours before the Wesleyan squad was to entrain for Orlando.

It would have been the third meeting of the two schools and Pres. Ficken said the supposition was Rollins cancelled the game because Ohio Wesleyan refused to leave Ken Woodward, a Negro player, at home. Mon. 11-24-47

"Ohio Wesleyan University," he said, "has maintained and will continue to maintain its right to use all eligible players in the Rollins game as well as other intercollegiate contests.

"Rollins College authorities, being confronted with an unforeseen circumstance which they deemed beyond their control, have exercised their contractual right to cancel. 11-24-47

"As far as I am able to determine, Ohio Wesleyan and Rollins . . . remain on the friendliest of terms."

Wesleyan has never before had a Negro player in a season when they played at Orlando.

Dean Stone's wire, said the Wesleyan president, merely invoked contract clause seven, which gives the host school the right to cancel the game for inclement weather or "any other unforeseen or unavoidable cause."

# Cotton Bowl Game Is Complicated By Negro Problem

12-3-47

Iowa State Daily, Ames, Iowa.

*(Editor's Note: The following editorial is reprinted from the Daily Texan, student newspaper of the University of Texas. It further illustrates the problem of Negro participation in college athletic events.)*

Officials of the Cotton Bowl Association will probably do some uneasy squirming when they select a team to meet Southern Methodist University next New Year's Day. The Dallas school's football coach said Sunday that the Mustangs won't mind a bit playing an Eastern team which includes Negroes.

Wed. 12-3-47

**That puts it squarely up to the Cotton Bowl planners. Will they violate Texas's ideas of good taste by inviting Negroes to play football in Dallas?**

* * *

The pressures stack up this way: on the one hand, there are sports fans who don't care whether the visitors have white or black or red skins as long as they play good ball. They are the lovers of the game who will look not at the color of the player but at their skill as blocking and passing and kicking.

12-3-47

**On the other hand, the die-hard, "professional Southerner" crowd simply can't see treating a Negro as the equal of his white teammates in matters of hotel accommodations, restaurants, and entertainment. To them, a Negro is not accorded the same courtesies as a white man in this part of the country, and that is that. Anybody that says they're equal is a Red, and probably a Yankee.**

* * *

Those people who object to Negroes, unfortunately, represent the kind of money that talks loudly, and Cotton Bowl operators are not so deaf that they miss the message.

**Can Cotton Bowl officials say that democracy doesn't extend far enough to include Negroes on visiting football teams?**

# RICKEY'S APPEAL FOR NEGRO IS LOST

Times, New York, N.Y.

## Rollins Cancels Game When Ohio Wesleyan Refuses to Play Without Woodward

DELAWARE, Ohio, Nov. 24 (AP)—Branch Rickey, president of the Brooklyn Dodgers and first man to sign a Negro player for the major leagues, unsuccessfully tried to block cancellation of the Ohio Wesleyan-Rollins College football game, the acting president of the Ohio school disclosed tonight.

Rickey, said Dean C. E. Ficken of Ohio Wesleyan, personally appeared at Delaware for a conference between Ficken and A. D. Enyart, Rollins College dean of men, last Friday night. Tue.

The game, scheduled for next Friday, was canceled the day after the fruitless conference.

A Florida custom keeps Negroes from competing against whites in public and a Negro youth—Ken Woodward of Columbus—is an Ohio Wesleyan star. 11-25-47

Ohio Wesleyan declined to make the trip without Woodward, and Rollins canceled the engagement.

Dean Ficken, now acting president of Wesleyan, said Rickey attempted to convince Rollins College authorities it was feasible to play the game despite the state law. 11-25-47

Rickey is an alumnus of Ohio Wesleyan.

# MR. RICKEY AGAIN

Defender, Chicago, Ill.

The John Brown of baseball, Branch Rickey of the Brooklyn Dodgers, has proved again that the reasons which impelled him to knock out the color bar in baseball also motivate him in other fields. Last week Mr. Rickey denounced the attitude of Florida's Rollins College which refused to engage Ohio Wesleyan University in football because the latter's team included a Negro player. 12-6-47

The esteemed Mr. Rickey is an alumnus of Ohio Wesleyan and he paid a special visit to his school to uphold the college's hand in refusing to bench Kenny Woodward, the Negro star. Following Mr. Rickey's intervention, the acting president of the Ohio school wired Rollins College: "If the team plays, it should do so according to contract, with every eligible player."

Upon receipt of this news, Rollins College cancelled the game which was to have been played on Thanksgiving Day. This was an act devoid of sportsmanship. Some southern colleges have recently abandoned their insistence on playing only lily-white teams and it is regrettable that Rollins College still numbers itself among the backward educational institutions of the nation.

# OHIO SCHOOL 'MISSES BUS' IN FAILING TO USE NEGRO PLAYER AGAINST OCU AT TAFT STADIUM

Black Dispatch

## Northern School Bows To Tradition

Sat. 11-29-47

## COACH 'MUFFS' BIG CHANCE TO HIT OKIE JIM CROW

Okla. City, Okla.

A northern school bowed to southern tradition here Saturday when Baldwin-Wallace college of Berea, Ohio, refused to play a Negro guard, though they needed every available player to prevent a threatened rout that ended in the basketball score of 49-25 in favor of Oklahoma City University. Oklahoma City, Okla.

The Ohio school in the suburbs of Cleveland, came into the athletic spotlight a few years past when the great Negro track star, Harrison Dillard, won the National AAU high hurdles championship and recently toured Norway, Sweden and Denmark with a picked team of pro-olympic stars.

The linesman playing guard on the B-W football team is Robert Orr, 5-feet six inches 165-pound letterman in 1946 and reported to have played in 30 of 32 quarters of eight games his school has played this year. Sat. 11-29-47

Orr, a man whose speech and mannerisms reflect excellent character, is a veteran of the 92nd Division and played football with their team in Italy. He is married, is the father of a 3-year-old girl and works as a clerk in the city library of Cleveland, commuting daily to his study toward a degree in Education.

It was learned that no clause in the game contract with OCU mentioned bans against Negro players. Black Dispatch

51f 1947



# Fla. Negro High Sues For Use of Gator Bowl

Daily Worker
Atlanta, Ga.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Dec. 4. (UP).—A Negro High School filed suit against the city of Jacksonville today claiming it had been denied use of the Gator Bowl for an All?Negro football game.

Attorneys for Stanton High said a date had been requested for the school's game with Booker T. Washington High of Atlanta anytime between Dec. 6 and Jan. 1, when the Stadium would not be in use.

Fri 12-5-47

City officials admitted the bowl would be free but explained that sanitary facilities were inadequate to serve Negro patrons. 12-5-47

# NEGRO PLAYERS BARRED

## Lynn High Loses Game at Miami Because of Colored Stars

Jim Crow
Game

BOSTON, Nov. 28 (AP)—Two Negro stars are keeping the Lynn Classical High School football team out of this year's High School Orange Bowl game at Miami, school and bowl officials were quoted as saying today.

Orange Bowl Director Robert B. Mulloy was quoted by The Boston Traveler as follows: 11-28-47

"We don't play our boys against Negroes. Lynn Classical has two and so is definitely out."

Paul Pittman, back, and Tom Smith, left tackle, have starred in a season in which Classical, while dropping one game, became Massachusetts' top scoring schoolboy outfit with a total of 268 points.

Mulloy said three Northern teams still being considered for the Christmas game are Medford, Mass.; Roosevelt High of Canton, Ohio. and McKeesport (Pa.) High.

51f 1947

General

# I'm Telling You...

PM New York, N.Y.

By JACK MAHON

The ugliest virus that perennially attacks the sporting world—racial discrimination—has broken out again with alarming suddenness in the last few weeks. We believe the doctor should be called in promptly before the disease reaches epidemic proportions and festers old wounds many Americans believed had been healed in 1946. Thurs. 1-2-47

Last year was one of the most successful sports years of all time. Not the least important factor was the great progress made toward eliminating race prejudice from sport, particularly in baseball. Branch Rickey, president of the Brooklyn Dodgers, took the lead in the campaign by announcing the Dodgers intended to bring up Jackie Robinson and other Negro ball players for a trial with his club. As you must know, there had been an "unwritten" law prohibiting Negroes from playing in organized baseball.

**Things were looking up till the last two weeks of the year. And suddenly we read where the University of Tennessee basketball team refused to take the floor, after traveling all the way to McKeesport, Pa., to meet the Duquesne University quintet, because the Dukes said they might use a Negro star, Charles Cooper.**

The incident, which took place Dec. 23, was highlighted in subsequent explanations by Coach James Mauer of Tennessee, Chick Davies of Duquesne, and Judge Samuel A. Weiss, chairman of the Duquesne Athletic Council.

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Mauer said he had written Coach Davies two weeks before the contest requesting that Cooper not be used against the Tennessee team. When he received no reply, Mauer assumed his request would be honored and the Vols made the trip for the game.

Davies said he told Mauer he wouldn't use Cooper unless he had to. "I was anxious to play the game," the coach explained, "but made it clear I certainly intended to use Cooper if he was needed."

Just before game time, Mauer, realizing he had no real commitment, told his team the story. The boys voted not to play. The co-captains of Tennessee told reporters the squad felt it would be violating an "unwritten" Southeastern Conference and University rule if they played against Cooper. PM New York, N.Y. Thurs. 1-2-47

**Cooper, who spent 16 months in the Navy, asked Davies to play without him, but the coach wouldn't listen to the boy's plea. Judge Weiss commented, "I insist that no player be barred from this game by reason of race, color, or creed. The principle of the entire matter means more to us than a mere basketball game."**

It is most unfortunate such tolerance does not exist in all athletic offices. There have been many instances this past season where the presence of Negro athletes militated against the choice of teams for important intersectional games.

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And then there came the deplorable occurrence in the Garden basketball double-header last Saturday, when Everett Shelton, Wyoming coach, gave vent to his prejudice against players on the CCNY quintet. The uproar this stirred has left bitter feeling in its wake. The reaction certainly is proof positive to any coach or athlete that the vast majority of fans oppose such displays of bias and that the sport-patronizing public will not tolerate them, in the Garden or in any other arena.

And racial and religious prejudice is not confined to football and basketball.

**The Catholic Youth Organization of Brooklyn has adopted a resolution calling on the American Bowling Congress to delete a discriminatory clause from its constitution. The ABC, which represents roughly a million and a half bowlers throughout the U. S. A., restricts its membership to "white" males.**

The Brooklyn CYO unit of more than 200 teams wants this clause killed and a substitute provision inserted, opening membership to all males, regardless of race, creed, or religion. ABC headquarters here explained that this amendment will be voted on at the annual convention, opening in Los Angeles April 18. Approximately 800 delegates vote on proposed changes and a two-thirds majority is necessary to amend the constitution. PM New York, N.Y.

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Thurs. 1-2-47

An antidote for this recurring malignant malady? One way has been suggested, but it merely blinks at prejudice, offers no real solution, and, frankly, can be called cowardly. That way is for schools and colleges simply to avoid booking teams which include players to whom they object. This would tend to prevent the year in and year out spectacle of supposedly fair-minded and intelligent institutions parading their intolerance in public and in print. But this just evades the issue. You can't cure this condition by hiding from it.

**The ABC can solve its problem by passing the CYO resolution, while Mr. Rickey can fulfill his obligations simply by seeing to it that Jackie Robinson gets a fair trial for a berth on the '47 Brooklyn club.**

The color of any competent athlete's skin never should bar him from competition with fellow Americans. The Negro, the Filipino, the Indian, the Chinese all spilled the same kind of blood during the recent war.

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**McCarter called off the match scheduled to be played at Williamsburgh, Va., next week when he found out the southern school played only white opponents. Charles T. Duncan, 21-year-old Negro veteran from Washington, DC, is the third man on the tennis team and McCarter said it was not Dartmouth's policy "to change the makeup of our team to satisfy the prejudices of another institution."**

**Duncan, called by the student newspaper "one of the most popular students on the campus," is an elective member of the Dartmouth Student Council and is also president of the Inter-Dormitory Council.** Sat 3-29-47

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**An aroused student body at Miami University of Oxford, Ohio, has insured that there will be no repetition of the Jimcrowing of its own athletes to suit the "customs" of Southern schools. This past season a Negro member of the football team was not taken to Miami, Florida, to play against Miami U. there.**

**Immediate action was taken by students, culminating in a petition to the faculty asking an end of such appeasement. The faculty then went on record against any further discrimination.** 3-29-47

**FIRST CANCELLATION OF 1947**

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# Racial Unfairness Hit by Nebraska In Council Vote

Daily Iowa State

The University of Nebraska Student Council opposes what it calls "racial discrimination in Big Six athletics."

The council adopted the resolution late Wednesday. Council president Harold Mozer said the vote was not unaminous. The campus newspaper, the Daily Nebraskan, plans to poll the student body to determine the attitude on the council's action. College Ames,

Mozer said the student governing body will ask conference officials to take action against the rule that prevents negroes from competing in conference sports. The resolution adds that if action is not taken, Nebraska should withdraw from the Big Six circuit. Fri. 11-21-47

He pointed out that Missouri and Oklahoma bar Negroes from varsity athletics. A conference rule requires that any school competing against these teams must abide by that rule.

The council president has invited representatives of the other conference schools to attend the meeting on the Nebraska campus to discuss the question. The meeting is scheduled for Nov. 29 and 30.

# Time For Decision--

State Daily

Student representatives of the Big Six schools will meet at the University of Nebraska, November 3[illegible] The primary purpose of this meeting will be discussion of Negro participation in Big Six athletics.

**Officials of Big Six schools, with the exception of Missouri and Oklahoma, state that no discrimination exists. However, many people at Iowa State, and throughout the Midwest, believe that a "gentlemen's agreement" to exclude Negroes does exist.** Fri.

The laws of the states of Missouri and Oklahoma prohibit Negroes from entering their schools. Furthermore, when Missouri or Oklahoma is the host team, rules of the Big Six prohibit the participation of Negroes on the visiting team. 11-21-47

The convenient way to prevent any "unfortunate incident" is to discourage Negroes from participating on varsity teams. If the schools in the Big Six, north of the Mason-Dixon line, do not practice such discrimination, then the widespread belief that they do is erroneous. In any case, the matter should be cleared up—and right now.

**There are those who say that we should not make an issue of this condition. There are others who feel that any limitation on the right of equality in a democracy is a fundamental wrong.** 11-21-47

Eighty-four years ago a very great American gave an explanation of what our democracy means. He said that it was, "dedicated to the proposition that all men are created free and equal." He did not say that only men with white skins, the right shaped noses or unslanted eyes were equal. He said "all" men. He did not say men were equal in the classroom but not on the football field.

If we believe in democracy then we must practice it, in the Big Six—right here at Iowa State.

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51f 1947 General

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# Jimcrow Still Mars Too Many Sports

Daily Worker 2-14-47 Fri. New York, N.Y.

By Bill Mardo

**LET'S LEAD OFF** with baseball today, and then lightly touch on some other sports and other Negro athletes. The status of Negroes in baseball is too well known to bear detailed repetition here. It's also widely known that when Branch Rickey signed five Negroes to his Brooklyn farm system last year, considerable progress was made toward ending the Jimcrow ban which has, for so long, marred our National Pastime. An unwritten ban which has existed since Abner Doubleday dreamed up his game over 100 years ago, and which of necessity compelled Negro baseball talent to form its own leagues back in 1920 — when the National Negro League was born.

Out of that league has come, through the years, a galaxy of great baseball names who have had everything it took to play big league ball—except a pigmentation pleasing to the major league moguls.

**Yes, truly great players, starting away back with John Henry Lloyd, a shortstop par excellent; Cyclone Joe Williams, that pitching marvel who strode the hill from 1910 to 1934; the one and only Satchel Paige, perhaps the peer of all pitchers; the late Josh Gibson, cheated of his rightful place in history as the hardest hitting catcher in all baseball; Rube Foster, Biz Mackey, Ben Taylor, Sammy Hughes, Homerun Johnson, Jim Taylor, a Willie Wells—and we could fill this column with the names alone of today's crop of Negro diamond stars who have the stamp of major league talent on them.**

Simultaneously with Jackie's Dodgers tryouts this next month, all democratic minded baseball fans should unloose a final smashing campaign to bring the other big league clubowners, aside from Rickey, into the fold by forcing them to sign up Negro talent.

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**TENNIS IS** a sport from whose national scene, like baseball, the Negro has been barred from and confined to a Jimcrow league. The holier - than - thou United States Lawn Tennis Association has never allowed Negro netters to compete in its tourneys.

The Americ Tennis Association, an all-Negro outfit, was formed in 1916 and held its first national championships in August of the next year. Talley Holmes and Sylvester Smith walked off with the honors. Holmes is ranked one of the greatest Negro players of all time, along with Edgar Brown, Henry Freeman, J. F. Wilkinson, Weir, Ted Thompson, Franklin Jackson, and several others.

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**NEGRO JOCKEYS were fairly numerous in the early days of horse-racing in this country. Today, because of the unwritten Jimcrow policy, few are left even on the small circuits.**

BUT THERE have been some Negro jockeys who rode winners in the Kentucky Derby classic away back. Oliver Lewis, on top of the colt Aristides, came home a winner in the 1875 Derby—as did Jimmy Winkfield, up on Alan-A-Dale in the 1911 race. Other fames Negro jockeys of yesterday included Billy Walker, Babe Hurd, Lonnie Clayton and Willie Simms.

BOWLING HAS its infamous "male whites only" clause, which has blocked Negro keglers from the big American Bowling Congress tournaments. But the trade union movement is up in arms against the ABC reactionaries, and a well planned campaign could soon bring the Jimcrow walls tumbling down in this great mass sport.

**WRESTLING HAS produced its share of Negro college champs. Eugene Davidson was the 125-pound titlist at Harvard in 1917; Russell Minton wrestled for Penn State; Bennet C. Turner copped the New England intercollegiate title in 1926; Walter Gordon, of the University of California, was the Pacific Coast Conference heavy wrestling champ during the years of the first World War.**

PROFESSIONAL HOCKEY is still strictly Jimcrow. The closest a Negro puckster ever came to cracking the ban was in 1937 when Charley Booker was allowed to practice for a while with the Boston Bruins. But nothing came of it.

## Virginians Rap W & M In Tennis Incident

Baltimore, Md.
Afro-American

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. — Refusal of William and Mary College to play a scheduled tennis match with Dartmouth because the latter school had a colored player on the team has created some stir among the small group of liberals here.

Sat. 4-19-47

When Dartmouth cancelled the engagement rather than leave the player, Charles T. Duncan, behind, the incident was given wide publicity here and discussed by student groups. Some of the students did not support William and Mary in her opposition to having the colored member on the team for the scheduled match.

A few students readily accepted the position of William H. McCarter, Dartmouth director of athletics, who asserted that "we do not change the personnel of our teams on the basis of opponents' preferences."

# Refuses to Leave Tennis Star Behind

Afro-American Sat. 4-5-47
Baltimore, Md.

## Player Rejected by William & Mary Son of Todd Duncan, Musician

HANOVER, N.H.—Dartmouth College on Wednesday cancelled a proposed April 1-2 tennis match with William and Mary College at Williamsburg, Va., because the latter has refused to play against a colored member of the 10-man local team.

The young man involved is Charles T. Duncan, son of Todd Duncan, internationally-famous stage and concert artist of Washington. He is 21 years old, a former all-round star at Mt. Hermon Preparatory School, one of the top members of the crack Dartmouth ski team.

Winner of the Dartmouth fall tennis tournament as a freshman in 1942, young Duncan was runner-up in the college tournament in 1944.

Leaving school, he served 18 months as an ensign in the Navy aboard the S. S. Platte, all of whose other officers were white.

**College Plays Only Whites**

Cancellation of the match with William and Mary followed a study of the Virginia school's anti-racial attitude.

Immediately it was learned that W. & M. maintains a policy of playing only white opponents, William H. McCarter, director of athletics at Dartmouth, called off the match.

In a statement to the AFRO Wednesday night, McCarter declared: "We have no feelings against William and Mary. What they do in their athletic programs is not up to us.

**Will Not Give In**

"We are not a civil liberties league, nor is it our desire to carry the torch in reforming the world. But we have a very definite policy here not to change the makeup of any athletic team to satisfy the preferences of another institution."

McCarter said that Duncan has shown evidence of returning to pre-war form in indoor practice and, although the team has not as yet been outside, he would say that Duncan ranks "about No. 3" on the Big Green varsity net squad.

**Native of Washington**

Young Duncan received his early education at Garnet-Patterson Junior High School in Washington, and then attended St. John's in London after finishing his preparatory work at Mt. Hermon. It was at Mt. Hermon where he first gained prominence on the ski runways. Sat. 4-5-47

Todd Duncan, the youth's father, was the original Porgy in "Porgy and Bess," the famous George Gershwin composition.

He is also widely known as a singer, and is currently in Canada on a concert tour.

**Stand 'Appreciated'**

Mrs. Gladys Duncan, the lad's mother, told the AFRO Thursday morning that Dartmouth's stand in the matter was thoroughly "appreciated."

Said Mrs. Duncan: "All of us understand the type of thing our young men and young women are required to face when they are brought into contact with schools of the South. And it is gratifying when it develops that each time, the young man or young woman is truly outstanding.

"I am so happy that my boy has conducted himself in such a way as to win respect at every school he has attended, both in athletics and in his scholastic work.

"I'm sure that the sort of thing Dartmouth has done will help to solve the problem at long last."

**Honor Student Everywhere**

Young Duncan has held honorary and elective positions at every educational institution he has attended. When he completed the course at Cornell University's Midshipmen's Training School before entering the Navy, the lad was the outstanding member of the class and the only one of his race enrolled there.

At present he holds the highly coveted post of president of the interdormitory council, and is a candidate for Phi Beta Kappa installation.

**Unfortunate, Says Va. Head**

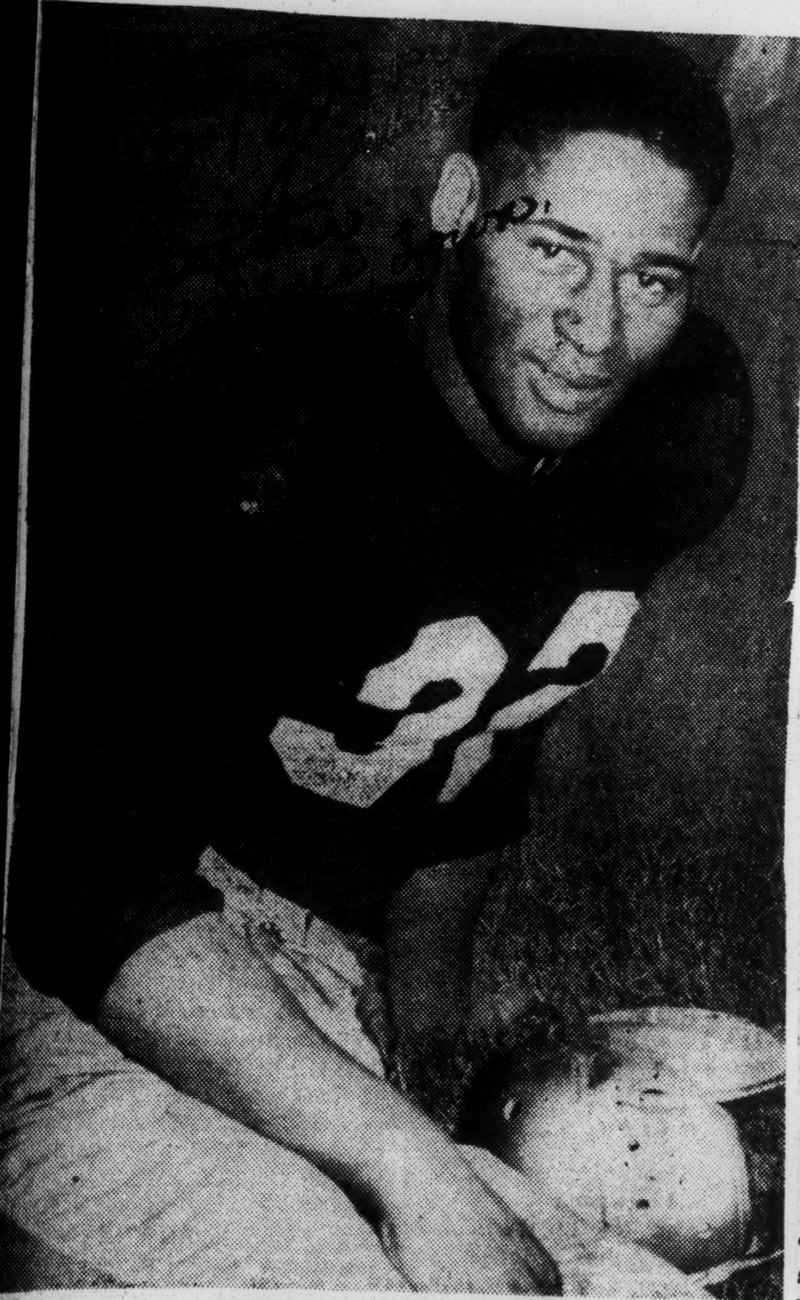
WILLIAMSBURG, Va. — Oscar McCray, director of athletics at William and Mary College here told the AFRO Thursday morning that cancellation of the tennis match between his school and Dartmouth College was "one of those unfortunate things."

Dartmouth's position is "understandable," McCray declared. "They have a colored boy who is a star of the team and they don't wish to play without him.

"But they know we can't play with or against colored boys here, and there should be no resentment toward us." Sat. 4-5-47

Asked whether William and Mary would object to playing against Duncan if the matches were being held in the North, McCray said: "As far as I, personally, am concerned, there would be no objection."

CHARLES DUNCAN



**Halfback Emlen Tunnell.**
*Hawkeye Ace Quits in a Huff.*

# Anderson Says Em 'Definitely Through'

(The Register's Iowa News Service.)

IOWA CITY, IA.—Emlen Tunnell, Iowa's first string left halfback who has gained recognition this season as the target for Al DiMarco's passes, has deserted the Hawkeye squad, Coach Eddie Anderson indicated Tuesday.

The 22-year-old junior left the Hawkeye practice field midway through Monday's drills and has not reported since, Dr. Anderson said Tuesday night.

**Late Tuesday night Anderson said: "As far as I'm concerned, Tunnell is through."**

Tunnell, the Hawks' shifty Negro halfback, left the field after a flare-up with Backfield Coach Frank Carideo.

**Working his men in a "live" tackling drill against freshmen, Carideo said Tunnell "refused to take the work the rest of the squad was having" and walked out.**

Tunnell, when the incident occurred, was reportedly reprimanded for making a poor tackle in the work designed to sharpen the Hawks' tackling tactics.

He tried again, made a more vicious stop and then left the enclosure.

**"I'd rather get killed on Saturday afternoon than during the week," Tunnell later remarked.**

Tunnell said Tuesday night:

**"If my government check had come today, I'd have already been on my way home."**

Earlier Anderson stated that should Tunnell ask the coaching staff to return him to the squad Tunnell would probably not see action against Wisconsin at Madison Saturday.

**"I can't possibly see how Tunnell could figure on playing," Anderson declared, "after missing two days of important practice."**

"We told our squad at the start of the season," Dr. Eddie explained, "that if anyone didn't want to take what the rest of the squad was getting in practice he could turn in his uniform."

Anderson said he would make no move to regain the services of the Pennsylvania Negro, whose return to Iowa for this football campaign had been problematical. Tunnell said following the 1946 season that he would not play with the Hawkeyes in 1947.

Last March Tunnell turned in his suit and quit spring drills, but reappeared two days later. Tunnell explained at the time that he went to Des Moines to straighten out personal affairs with the veterans administration.

**Anderson said after Tuesday night's practice that Johnny Tedore would probably take over Tunnell's spot at left half.**

The Hawk boss also indicated that Quarterback Johnny Estes or Bob Smith, who already divides his work between right half and fullback, could step into the position.

In practice work, the Hawkeyes continued to mend their tackling defects and went through a semi-scrimmage in a light rain.

★ ★ ★

**The former Toledo university athlete leads the Big Nine in passes received this year with nine completions for a total of 190 yards and three touchdowns.**

He is second in rushing among the Hawks and heads the team in average yards gained per carry with a 5.4 figure.

**Scored Against Indiana.**

Tunnell received the three touchdown passes against Indiana in the Hawks' only Big Nine victory of the season.

The speedy Negro also scored Iowa's only marker in the loss to U.C.L.A. That touchdown came on a pass from Quarterback Johnny Estes and a spectacular run.

Tunnell, who weighs 185 pounds, came to Iowa after a brilliant record as a back on the Alameda coast guard eleven in California.

**Capable Ball Carrier.**

Last year, his first at Iowa, "The Gremlin" participated in six games and established a rushing average of 3.6 yards in the 49 times he carried the ball. His net yardage ranked twentieth in the Big Nine.

On the basis of net gain by rushing, Tunnell ranked third among the Iowans.

His passing completions ranked fifth in the conference in 1946 and led the Hawkeyes. His total offense average for the five games was 57.6 yards.

**Played With Amana.**

Last summer Tunnell pitched and played the outfield for the Amana Freezers, an Iowa semi-pro nine managed by Hal Trosky, former American League first baseman.

His pre-Hawkeye athletic career included his selection as an all-Pennsylvania halfback from Radnour Hill in 1941.

He played one season of football and basketball at Toledo U. and served three years in the coast guard, during which time he was an all-west coast service halfback in 1944.

He is enrolled in the Iowa physical education department.

# Anti-Racial Policy at Michigan State Finally Bows, Grid Coach Plays Smith

DETROIT—(NNPA)—The year-long campaign to crack discriminatory sports practices at Michigan State College came to a successful close October 25, when halfback Horace Smith played against Kentucky at East Lansing.

State was started in November, 1946, by Bill Matney, sports editor of local paper, who severly criticized Head Coach Charles Machman and other athletic officials for their failure to take a stand after Smith was withheld from two games involving southern schools.

With the resignation of Bachman as coach at the end of the season, the drive seased temporarily; it was generally supposed that the advent of a new coach would bring a change of policy regarding inter-racial competition.

The event marked the first time in the history of MSC that one of its colored players had been allowed to compete against a southern school.

The campaign to equalize the athletic situation at Michigan

*Slated to Be Benched*

The investigation was resumed this year when Matney learned that Smith was to be withheld from both games which State was scheduled to play against Mississippi State and University of Kentucky.

After interviewing Coaching Clarence (Biggie) Munn and athletic director Ralph H. Young, and receiving answers which were far from satisfactory, a statewide campaign was launched to force MSC to take a stand one way or the other.

With the assistance of several civi and religious organizations, the campaign reached full proportions immediately following the Mississippi State game, in which Smith did not participate.

*Petition Governor*

The sports public, shocked by the realization that the college was actually bowing to racial discrimination, took up the cry and flooded the office of Gov. Kim Sigler with letters and telegrams of protest. During the campaign, local daily papers adopted a "silent policy" in conection wit hthe Smith incident. His absence from the Mississippi tilt was mentioned only as a game sidelight.

A climax was reached just prior to the Kentucky game. In a long-distance conversation with the director of athletics of Kentucky, Matney learned that the game would be played under any circumstances.

Armed with this information, and fortified with public sentiment, the Chronicle placed MSC o nthe spot in its October 25 issue. Charges were also directed at the school's athletic council, and more specifically, at its director, Lloyd C. Emmons.

Facing a public ultimatum, Michigan State finally took a firm stand and used Smith in the game, which State dropped after a hard battle, 7-6.

# Texans to See Colored Players With Penn State in Cotton Bowl

PHILADELPHIA

Two stellar colored players, Wallace Triplet, right halfback, and Dennis Hoggard, end, will be in the gridiron limelight on New Year's Day, when Penn State (where they are students) and Southern Methodist, two of the nation's four major unbeaten and untied teams, meet in the Cotton Bowl in Dallas.

The precedent set last October, when the Cavaliers of the University of Virginia played Harvard with Chet Pierce in the Crimson lineup, will be repeated, since Penn State will be the first team with mixed players to play in Texas. Neither team will take part in any receptions or banquets.

# Five Major College Grid Stars Feted In Gotham

NEW YORK—Five major Negro college football stars and their wives or dates enjoyed a swank week end at the Waldorf here during which they received awards from the Football Writers Association.

Guests of Walter Mack, president of Pepsi-Cola Company, along with 43 white gridiron stars, were George Taliaferro, Indiana University halfback; Leonard Ford and Robert Mann, University of Michigan ends; Earl Banks, University of Iowa guard; and Levi Jackson, Yale University fullback. All 48 stars and their wives or dates were flown here, and then housed at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

Arriving here last Saturday, the gridiron greats were honored guests at a cocktail party and dinner dance given by the very social Outdoor Cleanliness Association of the City of New York. At the dinner in the Waldorf's Grand Ballroom, they were presented the awards for their outstanding playing ability.

The early part of Saturday and Sunday the stars and their girl friends spent seeing New York. Earl Banks brought Dorothy Banks with him. Levi Jackson's guest from New Haven, Conn., was Miss Ginny Moore. Levi told the Defender that their engagement would be announced Christmas and added, "It feels wonderful." They were, he said, having a "swell time" in New York on Ginny's first trip here.

Miss Viola Jones, of the registrar's office at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., came as the date of Taliaferro. Asked if they were engaged, Taliaferro replied, "Not quite, but any time she says, it's on." He reported he was having a "fine time" on his first official trip to New York. (He was here once briefly during his years in the armed services.)

## Welcomes Negroes

# SMU Coach For Democracy

**By J. DON DAVIS**
**(Courier's Texas Bureau)**

DALLAS, Tex. — **"We have no objections to competing against colored players. After all, we're supposed to live in a democracy," declared Coach Matty Bell, famous tutor of Southern Methodist's galloping Mustangs.**

**Coach Bell**

**This was the history-making statement of SMU's nationally-known mentor when interviewed about the participation of Penn State's halfback Wallace Triplett and end Dennis Hoggart in the New Year's Day Cotton Bowl classic here.**

**"Southern Methodist University has broken precedents before," Coach Bell continued. "We were the first school of the Southwest Conference to play against Negroes in other sections."**

**Backing up their coach's sentiments, several SMU stars were outspoken** in expressing their desire to play the undefeated Easterners despite the fact that two colored players are included on the Nittany Lions' roster.

**KNEW IN ADVANCE**

Without pulling his punches, Penn State's coach, Bob Higgins had previously informed Cotton Bowl officials emphatically:

**"We have several colored boys and we WON'T play anybody without them!"**

SMU, by virtue of its defeat over the University of Texas, became the host team in the Cotton Bowl.

**LEFT UP TO PLAYERS**

Coach Bell left it entirely up to his players to select a foe. They picked Penn State and the Nittany Lions accepted.

When complications loomed on hotel accommodations and entertainment for Penn State's Negro players, Bell said:

**"That's a problem for the Cotton Bowl officials."**

By request of players of both teams, there will be no banquets.

When the announcement was made that the SMU players were willing to play against Negroes in Dallas, alumni of the school hurried dozens of wires of congratulations.

The game will mark the first time in the history of Texas wherein Negro players will participate in a "white" game.

Throughout the Lone Star State, colored citizens have been clamoring for tickets, but all seats in the huge wooden saucer were "sold out" three weeks ago.

# Notre Dame's Lujack and Fischer Selected for All-America Honors

Times

## Chappuis, Star Back of Michigan, Also Is Named on Associated Press Eleven—Swiacki of Columbia Chosen

New York, N.Y.

51g

Notre Dame and Michigan, as befits the victorious records of these Midwestern football giants, dominate the 1947 Associated Press All-America squad announced yesterday.

Johnny Lujack, Notre Dame's superb T formation quarterback, is the only repeater from 1946, and is joined on the first team by William Fischer, sturdy Irish guard. Notre Dame's tackles, Ziggy Czarobski and George Connor, are on the second and third teams.

Master of Michigan's offense, Bob Chappuis, is in the first backfield, with Bob Mann, Michigan's great offensive end, and Chalmers Elliott, regarded by many as a back amost the equal o Chappuis, on the second team. Lenny Ford, Michigan's towering defensive end, is on the third team.

Thus each has four on the squad, with Notre Dame the only college to place two on the first team.

**Other First Team Members**

Other first team members are Paul Cleary, Southern California, and Bill Swiacki, Columbia, ends; Bob Davis, Georgia Tech, and Dick Harris, Texas, tackles; Steve Suhey, Penn State, guard; Charles Bednarik, Pennsylvania, center; Ray Evans and Doak Walker, Southern Methodist, backs.

Geographically the first team presents four Midwesterners, three Easterners, three men from the South and Southwest and one from the Far West. Of the 33 men on the three teams, 6 are from the East, 11 from the Midwest, 12 from the South and Southwest, and 4 from the Far West.

Selected on the basis of reports from more than 250 Associated Press newspaper sports editors and staff writers, the composition of the first three teams reflects the year's trend to team play rather than individual brilliance.

The 1947 season was distinguished from past years by breaking all attendance records, even those of lush 1946; by its great crop of pass catching ends; by a powerful group of centers of almost equal ability, and by the high level of backfield performance without, however, a single dominating figure cast in the mold of such heroes as Red Grange, Dutch Clark, or more recently. Army's Felix Blanchard and Glenn Davis. There is in fact little to choose between the men on the All-America backfields down to the third team.

The new rule listing all bars on substitutions meant that the "iron men" of yesteryear have disappeared and specialists in all phases of the game have taken their place.

Carrying specialization to its ultimate is Swiacki, first team end, called by his coach, Lou Little, "as good a receiver as I've ever seen on any team in college, school or pro ranks." Swiacki's ability to gather in the ball rain or shine, running or falling, over his head or at his shoelaces, lifted Columbia's team from mediocrity and accounted for the stunning 21-20 victory over an Army team that had gone unbeaten for more than three years. Defensively Swiacki is sound but not spectacular.

At the other end is Paul Cleary of Southern California, a more balanced player, strong on defense, a good pass catcher and dangerous as a runner on end-around plays. He seldom makes a mistake, and when Michigan and Southern California meet New Year's Day in the Rose Bowl, Cleary's work as compared to Michigan's superb flankers, Mann and Ford, will be closely watched. Wed. 12-3-47

The selections:

**FIRST TEAM**

ENDS—Paul Cleary, Southern California, and William Swiacki, Columbia.
TACKLES—Bob Davis, Georgia Tech, and Richard Harris, Texas.
GUARDS—Steve Suhey, Penn State, and William Fischer, Notre Dame.
CENTER—Chares Bednarik, Pennsylvania.
BACKS—John Lujack, Notre Dame; Robert Chappuis, Michigan; Ray Evans, Kansas, and Doak Walker, Southern Methodist.

**SECOND TEAM**

ENDS—Robert Mann, Michigan, and Ike Owens, Illinois.
TACKLES — Zygmont Czarobski, Notre Dame, and Malachi Mills, V. M. I.
GUARDS—Leo Nomellini, Minnesota, and Rod Franz, California.
CENTER—Richard Scott, Navy.
BACKS—Chalmers Elliott, Michigan; Charles Conerly, Mississippi; Harry Gilmer, Alabama, and Charles Justice, North Carolina.

**THIRD TEAM**

ENDS—Barney Poole, Mississippi, and Lenny Ford, Michigan.
TACKLES—John Ferraro, Southern California, and George Connor, Notre Dame.
GUARDS—Joseph Steffy, Army, and Mike Dimitro, U. C. L. A.
CENTER — Jay Rhodemyre, Kentucky.
BACKS—Clyde Scott, Arkansas; Anthony Minisi, Pennsylvania; Bobby Layne, Texas, and ack Cloud, William and Mary.

Aug 1947

Bowl Games

# MARION JACKSON'S SPORTS NEWS REEL

Daily World

The annual excitement and speculation over which teams are going to be picked by promoters of the major bowls is in full gear. Every team whether Negro or white has some fettish or reasoning as the basis of why they should be projected in this or that bowl game. Here in the SIAA, the Florida A. and M. Rattlers have already booked Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va.; South Carolina State has reached into the bowl grab bag and come out with Allen University, Columbia, S. C. for the Pecan Bowl; Alabama A. and M. is set to play Knoxville in an un-named bowl promotion; and Morris Brown is reviving the Peach Bowl, here in Atlanta, with Virginia State. All of these games are

**In Washington, D. C., a new angle to the bowl craze has cropped up. Here, sponsors have come up with a benefit promotion to aid the coaches. Well, they might as well have their bit of the promotional pigskin graft. Nearly, every other organization, worthy or unworthy has come up with a "bowl" to wrangle funds for their pet projects.**

Sun. 11.16.47

Personally, I think it is time to call a halt to some of these pet schemes of back-of-the scenes promoters. After all, the function of our colleges is supposed to be mainly educational and it appears silly to me for three or four colleges out of the same conference to be playing for a mythical national championship when they have been beaten more times than a stubborn mule.

**Yet, I must admit that Negro colleges have not reached the stage of 'bowl insanity' as their white southern brother colleges. It is a sad sight to see such great universities as Georgia Tech, Georgia, Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and a few others of the same conference pulling wires that will give them the inside track to Chamber of Commerce promotions like the Sugar Bowl, Orange Bowl, Cotton Bowl, Gator Bowl and the to be inaugurated Dixie Bowl. There are a dozen or more lesser bowls we won't mention for lack of space.**

Shrine Circus Nov. 19-20—

However, there is still a worse-than-meet-the-eye attitude behind these southern bowl promotions. Southern whtie teams are having a hard time trying to pick around the top teams of the nation to avoid Negro players. Race prejudice is reducing the field from which the bowl promoters can select more than upsets. You can understand why Dixie bowlers are tugging at mighty Notre Dame which has never used a Negro player.

**If you don't believe this, think back several years to that rotten-in-Denmark deal between the University of Tennessee and the Rose Bowl Committee. Tennessee kept the Rose Bowl folk waiting to see if UCLA was going to win the coast crown. UCLA numbered four Negroes on its team at that time and Tennessee didn't think the Rose Bowl was worth that much**

**The color angle involving the use of Negro players brought on the break between southern white colleges and the Pacific Coast Conference, whose coaches didn't want to see their Negro stars idling away on the bench while some grid monster like Georgia Tech or Alabama beat the daylights out of them.**

"White" Bowl games are put over mainly through the work of Chamber of commerces while Negro bowl matches seldom have much assistance. Most of them are simon-pure civic promotions. With rare exception, Negro bowl games are mainly commercial. However, the Vulvan Bowl in Birmingham is played for the Negro YMCA operating fund. It would help the attraction for the Vulcan backers to publish financial and other vital statements after each game.

If we must have bowl games, I should like to see each conference pick a champion like the Big Nine and the Pacific Coast have done and sent the rest of the contenders back to the campus for study. If selections for bowls were all based on contracts between two conferences, we would be spared the spectacle of a lot of deceptive maneuvers between promoters and schools.

This bowl business is such a mess that it seems that each college has looked out in its backyard to see what kind of a fruit was growing and a new bowl dish is launched for money bait.

However, I am still one hundred per cent for the Vulcan Bowl.

# Derricotte Sparkles as Michigan Wins and Moves Nearer Rose Bowl

The Courier, Pittsburgh Pa

Sat. 11-1-47

By WILL ROBINSON

DETROIT, Mich.—Gene Derricotte, who is more than a capable replacement for Michigan's tail back, Bob Chappuis, and a candidate for All America honors in 1948, clinched the Wolverines' 13-6 over mighty Minnesota by going 25 yards for a fourth period touchdown in his only offensive effort of the day last Saturday.

ONLY RAN ONCE

Derricotte who is used chiefly on the defense in Coach Fritz Crisler's two team unit system at Michigan has few opportunities to carry the ball, but last Saturday his one chance proved enough after an intercepted pass set up Michigan's second touchdown.

On the first play after the Minnesota aerial went astray, Derricotte jumped through the left side of the line after a beautiful piece of faking and simply out ran the Gophers' defenders to pay dirt.

86,000 SEE GAME

Lenny Ford and Bob Mann, Michigan's other two first string sepia gridders, also came in for their moments of glory in the hard earned triumph over the gallant golden herd from the Northland before a sellout crowd of 86,000 spectators.

Coach Bernie Bierman also unveiled a biege back, 168-pound sophomore, Glen Pullens, who a Minnesota sport scribe informed us "has all the ear marks of developing into one of the Nation's best breakaway backs before he graduates."

Pullens gave a good account of himself in the game between two of the Western Conference's greatest rivals for the famed "little brown jug," a series dates back to 1892. Playing from a right half back position, Pullens caught a pass to advance the ball to midfield on one occasion and picked up a first down by going around his own right end for 8 yards on another trip.

Michigan scored its first touchdown on a pass with 69 seconds of play remaining in the first half after trailing by a score of 6-0. Brieske booted a perfect placement with Dericotte holding the ball to make the count 7-6 at the intermission. 11-1-47

This Saturday as college football moves into its November climax with many important games coming up, Michigan moves to Champaign for its show down battle with Illinois to top the list of "games of the year" for this week.

51g 1947 General

# Yesterday-Today

## Dr. Joe Trigg

No. 2 of a Series on

Afro American 1-18-47 Sat. Baltimore, Md.

# Athletic Greats Of Bygone Era

By SAM LACY

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Today he's the big, fat doctor everyone loves; the kids because his upholstered belt-line give sthem a comfortable resting place while their ills are being diagnosed for Mother, the old ladies because his three chins offer them a measure of security, and the rest of the folks because obesity, in his case, means the usual amount of joviality and a keen sense of humor. 1-18-47 Sat.

To see his huge form disappearing down a corridor of Freedmen's Hospital, or waddling into his uptown office in Washington, one would never suspect that Dr. Joseph E. Trigg, in his younger days, was one of the nation's great football linemen, a contemporary of the famous Fritz Pollard, and the only member of his race ever to see service on the varsity rowing team of a major American college.

But that was 30 years ago, give or take a couple of months. And since we're going back that far suppose we go the rest of the way and pickup young Joe Trigg in his faded red jersey with its barely distinguishable "M," playing tackle on the old M Street High School football team in Washington.

### Made Frosh Team

Even then young Joe was showing signs of someday leaning towards surgery, for opposing ball-carriers were all but bisected each time they ran at or near M Street's right tackle spot.

Graduating in 1912, Trigg was one of several boys from the school who elected to try Syracuse University. Among others were Wilfred Lawson, Graham Burwell and Walker Bacon, all track luminaries.

In 1913, he made a whale of a season on the Syracuse freshman eleven, filling in at guard or tackle depending on the coach's whim.

When the spring of 1914 rolled around, he amazed the sports world by showing up in answer to the call for crew candidates. Boating, particularly from a stroke position in a racing shell, was something everyone felt was reserved for none but the young scions of the nation's top-crust families.

### Blue Bloods Shocked

But like the rookie upstart who says, "Save your clippings, Bud, 'cause I can't read," Joe held out his hand for "one of them paddles," and got it.

He took to the water like a duck, for in no time he was securely lodged in an oar on the freshman crew.

The next year he had made junior varsity, and the following spring (1916) he was holding down the No. 7 position on the Orange varsity crew. For the benefit of the uninitiated, the No. 7 is the second most important post in the shell, for it directly behind the "stroke," and, actually, is the "stroke" oar on the starboard side.

Because of his increasing weight young Joe was moved nearer the center in his senior year, handling the No. 5 oar through the 1917 season.

### Princeton Wouldn't Play

Meanwhile, each year at Syracuse, like everywhere else, there was a fall as well as a spring. And when October rolled around, young Trigg was out in moleskins and cleats doing a magnificent job at tackle.

He didn't have the good fortune to compete on a championship aggregation, either on the water or on the gridiron. But he did have the personal satisfaction of playing on the Syracuse eleven of 1916 which went unbeaten so long as he remained in the game.

One loss was suffered by that 1916 Orange machine, and that was a 3-0 affair the high-chested Princeton team won. But because he wasn't a German, white or Japanese the Tigers wouldn't let little Joey play.

Yet he played in all the remaining ten games of that year's strenuous schedule — yes, even against Oregon, Montana and Occidental College, on a tour of the West Coast. And nobody thought twice of his race.

### Off to War 1-18-47 Sat.

Trigg finished his four years of double-barrelled varsity athletics with the 1917 football team, the quarterback of which was the well-known NYC coach, Chick Meehan, and the mentor of which was Bill Hollenbach, who refereed the recent Army-Navy game.

War clouds, which had been gathering in the waning years of his college career, suddenly broke and enveloped Joe along with countless other youths of his age.

Off to Europe he went, and by the time the Armistice was signed in November, 1918, young Trigg had seen service in the Meuse-Argonne and Vosges sectors and was filling the exceedingly perilous assignment of ammunition train captain in the 368th Infantry facing the Boche stronghold at Metz.

Back from the wars, Trigg accepted a job as assistant coach to Ed Morrison at Howard University, and served in that capacity through the four years he spent in medical school there.

### Becomes Ring Judge

Given his degree in 1924, he interned for one year at Freedmen's, then began practicing in this city.

In 1936, he was appointed an examining physician by the District of Columbia Boxing Commission, and four years later became the first of his race to gain assignment as a boxing judge.

Since then, he has officiated in more than 200 prize fights, among them the Joe Louis-Buddy Baer championship match and bouts of Henry Armstrong, Beau Jack, Willie Joyce, Kid Chocolate, Holman Williams, Ray Robinson and countless others. 1-18-47 Sat.

DR. JOE TRIGG

PAUL ROBESON, *when he was Rutgers' famed All-American end. His feats, and those of many others, are recounted in the Negro History Week grid review on this page.*

Daily Worker

# Negro Grid Stars Since Game Began

Daily Worker Wed 2-13-47 New York N.Y.

—By BILL MARDO—

FOOTBALL FIRST attracted serious attention in our country in 1869, when Princeton and Rutgers drew up a code of rules for a kicking game which featured 25 players per team on a large field with two goal posts 20-feet apart.

Yet in 1892 the collegiate grid circuit was already raving about a 175-pound Negro at Harvard who not only had the grit to play center (a position generally reserved for bruising 200-pounders who could stand the gaff) but who was earning recognition as **THE BEST** center in the country.

**That was William H. Lewis, whose tremendous exploits on the 1892 and '93 Harvard teams later caused Walter Camp to designate him the All-Time All-American center!**

So we see that the modern Negro grid greats, the Buddy Youngs, Kenny Washingtons, Woody Strodes, Jackie Robinsons, et al., are nothing new in football annals.

**WE'VE WRITTEN often on the phenomenal grid career of Paul Robeson. Suffice to repeat that many football authorities still regard him as the greatest end who ever lived. He was the powerhouse behind the two strongest Rutgers teams ever, the 1917-18 squads, was twice named to Walter Camp's All-American selections, and won four letters in all, while at college.**

•

**THERE WAS another Negro gridder who took the nation by storm during Robeson's time. We refer, of course, to the famed Fritz Pollard of Brown. He cracked Walter Camp's All-American team in 1916, after a season capped with brilliance in the Brown backfield. That was the year when Pollard almost single-handedly turned back Yale, 21-6.**

Wed 2-13-47

FOR SPACE'S SAKE, we'll have to forego detailed mention of the famous Negro moderns—Sidat Singh at Syracuse, the UCLAN greats a la Washington, Strode and Robinson, NYU's Dave Meyers and later Ed Williams; Cornell's one and only Brud Holland, All-American end; Columbia's Ed Williams and before him Manuel Riviero; last season's sensational Jimcrow buster at Yale, Mr. Levi Jackson; the pro-grid pioneers like Joe Lilliard, Marion Motley, Bill Wills and Horace Gillom.

New York, N.Y.

**HARVARD HAD, aside from Lewis, a fine end named Clarence Matthews in 1906, and tackle Howard Lee of earlier seasons. Tuft's College boasted through those early years such as Ed Morrison, William F. Brown and Otis Galloway; Williams College had its George M. Chadwell and Ernest Marshall; Brown University boasted the great Hugh Shippley; Dartmouth's Matthew Bullock was a tremendous figure at end from 1901-'03, and other Negro stars for the Big Green were Leslie Pollard and John Chadbourne; William Craighead captained Massachusetts State in 1905, and other Negro stars who dotted State's teams included Bill Williams, Charles Roberts, Gerold Lew and Ben Hubert. Joe Trigg earned fame at New York State College before the first World War; Colgate will never forget a Negro fullback named Ray Vaughn of their later 1926-28 teams; Charley West of Washington and Jefferson was in the national eye from 1920-23.**

Moving through those early years in the Midwest: Oberlin, a school whose Negro athletes are legend, had such as William Washington before the turn of the century; and later on Sam Morell, Nathan Brown, Leon Taylor, T. D. Hansbury; and from

Daily Worker

the 1920's through the early 30's there were S. Jamison, James Barnes, Carlos Berry and Samuel Barnes.

**A name very familiar to Ohio State fans of 1929-31 was Bill Bell, a wonderful backfield star who in the past two years you'll remember as the same Bill Bell who coaches the Tuskegee A. & T.**

Buddy Young, Bert Piggott, Ike [illegible] and Paul Patterson of [illegible] Rose Bowl winners this [illegible], will be happy to learn [illegible] back at the turn of [illegible] century the Illini elevens were sparked by Roy Young and H. H. Wheeler.

And likewise George Talieferro, the sensational scatback of the 1945 Indiana team which copped its first Big Nine title, was only following the rich tradition of previous Hoosier Negro aces—Fitzhugh Lyons, Jesse Babb, Archie Harris, etc.

**THE IMMORTAL Fred "Duke" Slater sparked Iowa during the 1918-21 campaigns and won mention on many All-American teams. But about ten years before Slater's heyday, Iowa had such stars as A. A. Alexander and Ledrue Galloway. Of more recent Iowa fame, there was, of course, the sensation speedster, Ossie Simmons and the great Homer Harris who captained the 1938 Iowa squad.**

Michigan State, in its early grid history, had a trio of illustrious Negro footballers—Gideon Smith, Harry Graves and Ben Goode.

Minnesota highlighters back in the early days of 1901-04 included Horace Bell (big brother of the Bill Bell mentioned before), and Bob Marshall. The 1930's saw Ellsworth Harpole and Dwight Reed bring glory to the Gopher gridiron.

**Northwestern University has a long history of renowned Negro greats: Sam Taylor, Tom Verdell, Clarence Hinton—and of course, the marvelous high-powered Bernie Jefferson of more recent fame.**

Nebraska had a Negro end named W. N. Johnson who carved quite a niche from 1900-1904.

**FRITZ POLLARD, Jr., son of the great Fritz of Brown glory, was quite a football and track star at North Dakota in the mid-'30s and commanded several All-America selections. With him on those Dakota teams was another Negro ace halfback, Horace Johnson.**

Coe College had an all-school great in Joe Collins, left halfback on the 1920-22 clubs—and according to the man who coached those teams, "Collins was one of the best football players ever developed in the State of Iowa and I consider him on my all-time Coe College eleven."

**WE COULD GO on for hours listing Negro gridders—but this IS a tabloid size newspaper.**

Chicago Defender, Ill.

CHICAGO PLAYERS on University of Iowa squad. At the left is Earl Banks, former teammate of Buddy Young at Wendell Phillips High School, who is in the starting lineup for Iowa at tackle. At the right is Otis Finney, also former teammate of Young at Phillips high. Young and Finney formed a two-man team to win the state prep outdoor track championship at Champaign, Ill., in 1943. 10-18-47

## On the Mixed Collegiate Grid Fronts

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md. 10-18-47

Taking the major games involving the mixed college football teams in the AFRO's weekly capsule.

### Tunnell Tops

IOWA CITY—Emlen Tunnell, flashy halfback, took the play against George Taliaferro, generally regarded one of the outstanding players of the Big Nine here Saturday as the Hawkeyes downed Indiana, 27-14.

Tunnel counted three of Iowa's four touchdowns, taking passes from Al DiMarco, white, that were good for 34, 55 and 37 yards respectively.

Taliaferro, on the other hand, counted one of the two Hoosier scores. His was on the end of a sensational 66-yard run with only 30 seconds of the first period remaining.

Earl Banks and Jimmy Estes also saw service for the winners while Mel Groomes was at starting fullback for the Indians.

### They All Help

ANN ARBOR, Mich.—Bob Mann, Lenny Ford and Gene Derricotte, big three of the Michigan gridiron steamroller, all had a hand in the overwhelming, 69-0, romp of the Wolverines over Pittsburgh here Saturday.

Mann tallied 3 times, the first on a pass from Bob Chappius, white, that was good for 60 yards in the second period. He collaborated with Chappius and Bump Elliott to check off 75 yards a few minutes later. Mann's third six-pointer resulted from his interception of a Pitt pass and subsequently racing 30 yards to pay dirt.

Mann was also responsible for Ford's marker, lateralling to the former Morgan State College end as he was about to be tackled on the Panther 23.

Derricotte's touchdown was tacked on the end, of an 80-yard punt runback, in which he shook off at least seven alien tacklers enroute.

### Patterson Held

NEW YORK — Paul Patterson, University of Illinois scatback, checked in with runs of 23 yards, 16 and 13, against Army here at Yankee Stadium, Saturday but the Cadets held the Illini, 1946 Rose Bowl champions, to a scoreless tie.

Ike Owens, regular end for the Westerners, performed brilliantly on defense and had an important part in outplaying the undefeated Army eleven.

### Triplett Romps

NEW YORK—Penn State, aided materially by the scintillating play of Wallace Triplett, mauled Fordham University, 75-0, at the Polo Grounds Saturday afternoon.

Triplett garnered two touchdowns personally as the Nitany Lions handed the Rams their worst defeat in history.

The Philadelphia lad lugged the ball for a touchdown in the second period from 40 yards out. Later, he paired with Denny Hoggard to negotiate a 72-yard six-pointer. In this, called by newsmen, the "prettiest play of the game," Hoggard received a pass from Bill Luther, white, on the Ram 48. As the ball came to rest in his hands, he was nailed by two Fordham defenders but quick as a flash, Hoggard lateralled to Triplett and the later scampered 45 yards to payoff territory.

### Rutgers Duo Aids

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J.—Harvey Grimsley and Bucky Hatchett, sophomore back and freshman end, respectively, helped as Rutgers stood off a late rally to defeat Princeton, 13-7, here Saturday.

Neither scored but the consistent short gains of Grimsley was responsible for the setting up of the "clincher" touchdown in the second period.

### Robeson Mike, Levi

HAMILTON, N.Y.—Paul Robeson Jr., back at end, performed creditably as Cornell registered a 27-18 victory over Colgate here Saturday.

LOS ANGELES—Bob Mike, tackle, saw limited action as the UCLA eleven romped to a 24-7 score over University of Oregon here Saturday.

NEW YORK—Levi Jackson, out with a head injury, watched from the sidelines as his Yale teammates defeated Columbia, 17-7, at Baker Field, Saturday.

**No Race Riot**

## Mixed Grid Teams Play In South

Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

JACKSON, Tenn.—For the first time in Tennessee's history, five white servicemen played with the Fort Knox soldiers team against Lane College here Saturday.

The Knox gridders lost to Lane 31-0, but despite the one-sided score, good sportsmanship prevailed throughout the game.

Harmony marked the playing of the soldiers' eleven, but they were simply outclassed by the collegians.

## Derricotte, Mann, Ford Aid Michigan In Rose Bowl Bid

World, Memphis, Tenn. 11-11-47

CHAMPAIGN, Ill.—(NNPA)—Gene Derricotte, Bob Mann and Len Ford turned in a star performance here last Saturday as 71,119 fans watched Michigan down a stubborn Illinois team, 14-7.

Running with Bump Elliot from a single wing position, Derricotte ran all over the Illini in a 65-yard drive to a first down on the Illinois 14, only to fumble a handoff from Les Bingaman which Illinois recovered to end the drive.

Mann gave valuable assistance on the scoring play which gave the Wolverines their first touchdown. The score came on a 74-yard return of a punt by Bump Elliot. When Elliot gathered in the ball he started straight down the sidelines but was threatened by two Illinois tacklers. Mann came over and disposed of one tackler with a vicious block. Dick Rifenburg took care of the other and Elliot went on to score.

Mann was responsible for Michigan's gaining possession of the ball to start the 65-yard drive which ended in Derricotte's fumble.

A few minutes after the opening kickoff, Mann hit Russ Steger of Illinois so hard that he fumbled and the Wolverines recovered to begin the drive.

Len Ford, Michigan's other end, was successively stopped by the Illini on his famous end around play but was almost invulnerable in defense of his flank position.

## On the Mixed Collegiate Grid Fronts

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

Taking the major games involving the mixed college football teams in the AFRO's weekly capsule: 11-8-47

## Two Aces, Two Scores

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Bucky Hatchett and Harvey Grimsley, sophomore aces of the Rutgers University football team, counted touchdowns and the visitors defeated Harvard, 31-7, here Saturday afternoon.

Hatchett tallied on a 14-yard pass from Frankie Burns, white, and barely missed another marker when he dropped a second pass a few minutes later. Grimsley's six-pointer was the result of a two-yard thrust through the line.

Harvard played without the services of seven first-stringers, one of whom was Chester (Chet) Pierce.

## Take It Easy

Sat.

STATE COLLEGE, Pa.—Wallace Triplett and Dennie Hoggard, Penn State aces, took things easy along with other members of the first string as the Nittany Lions romped to an easy 46-0, triumph over Colgate here Saturday.

Triplett started the game, figured in the homelings' first two touchdown drives, then withdrew. He re-entered for short spaces in the third quarter and again in the fourth.

Hoggard was the first end replacement, took part in the closing minutes of the first period, the better part of the second and for a brief span in the fourth.

## Estes Crashes Headline

LAFAYETTE, Ind.—Little Johnny Estes, one of the few lads of his race ever given a signal-calling assignment in the Big Nine, moved into high respect here Saturday as the Iowa Hawkeyes bowed to Purdue, 21-0.

Taking up where his better-known contemporary, Emlen Tunnell, had failed, Estes sparked a futile but threatening drive in the last quarter. It was a bullet-like pass from Estes to Bob Smith that put Iowa on the Boilermaker 9, where their thrust died.

Tunell and Sherman Banks, guard, also saw action in the contest.

## Jackson Recovers

NEW HAVEN — Levi Jackson, freshman fullback sensation of the 1946 Yale Bulldogs, showed signs of having completely recovered from the head injury he suffered early in the season here Saturday as he figured prominently in the Eli's 23-14 victory over Dartmouth.

Jackson teamed with Tex Furse and Art Fitzgerald, both white, to complete 10 of 15 passes for a total gain of 148 yards during the afternoon. In addition, Jackson ran the Dartmouth defenses wobby each time he got the ball, turning in sprints of seven yards, 16, 17, 21 and 28, as well as numerous short gains.

## Towler Out, Hurt

WASHINGTON, Pa.—Dan Towler, fullback star of Washington and Jefferson College and leading scorer among Pennsylvania collegians, watched the game from the sidelines as the Presidents scored a hard-fought, 21-13, victory over Carnegie Tech here Saturday.

## Taliaferro Counts

COLUMBUS, Ohio—The alliance of George Taliaferro and Mel Groomes proved too much for Ohio State here, Saturday, as the pair led Indiana to a 7-0 victory before 75,882 persons.

It was a long pass from Taliaferro, standing on his own 24, to Groomes that set up the score. And it was Taliaferro who plunged over for the marker.

George tossed to Mel in the closing minutes of the first period. The New Jersey youngster snatched the ball on the dead run at the Ohio 30, and raced to the 13, where he stumbled trying to elude Buckeye defenders. Two sweeps later, Taliaferro chugged into the end zone.

## Smith Victory Margin

EAST LANSING, Mich.—It remained for Horace Smith, halfback of the Michigan State eleven, to tally the winning touchdown as the Spartans scored a 13-7 triumph over Marquette here Saturday.

Smith's touchdown jaunt, a run of 26 yards, occurred in the final period. Michigan State recovered a Marquette fumble on the visitors' 26, and, on the first runing play, Horace circled his own left end for the clincher.

A few minutes later, Marquette scored and added the extra point, which would have tied the game were it not for Smith's earlier tally.

# Tunnell Returns To Iowa Roster

Daily World

MADISON, Wis.— (NNPA)— Emlen Tunnell, ace of the Iowa Hawkeyes, who walked off the Iowa practice field in a huff November 3, returned to the Hawkeye lineup against Wisconsin here last Saturday but failed to score as Iowa was crushed by the undefeated Badgers, 46-14.

Atlanta Ga.

Tunnell returned to the squad last Wednesday and said he hoped Coach Hunk Anderson would permit him to play in Iowa's two remaining het Wisconsin and Minnesota games

He left the practice field after an argument with Frank Carideo assistant coach of the Hawkeyes. At the time he said he would not return "unless they ask me." Caridec said Tunnell had objected to a tackling drill. Thur. 11-13-47

Tunnel, who has a conference record, nine pass interceptions for 190 yds. and whotwo weeks ago took three touchdown passes against Indiana has been a mainstay of the Hawkeye squad all season.

Last Saturday, Tunnell entered the game as a substitute along with substitute quarterback, Johnny Estes Iowa's other colored back.

# Apace With Aces of Pro Gridirons

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 11-15-47

Herewith is a brief resume of the major games on the mixed professional gridirons during the past week end:

## Bass Scampers

CHICAGO—Bill Bass, ex-Tennessee State College fullback, scampered 82 yards to a touchdown here Friday night to give the Chicago Rockets their first victory of the All-America Conference season, downing the lily-white Baltimore Colts, 27-21.

Bass's sprint followed his interception of a pass by Bud Schwenk, Baltimore aerial ace, on the Chicago 18-yard stripe. He cut for the sideline to his left and raced the distance to pay dirt.

This was the third of three Rocket touchdowns in the second period, and gave the locals a margin that would have been safe even without a field-goal by Rokiskey, a white teammate, in the final period.

The run was the longest runback of a pass interception in the history of the conference.

Fri. 11-15-47

## Dons Dumped

BUFFALO, N.Y.—The Los Angeles Dons, with Johnny Brown and Bert Piggott in starting roles, were humbled, 25-0, in a mild All-America Conference upset here Sunday afternoon.

The Buffalo Bills turned the trick with George Ratterman passing the Westerners dizzy.

Brown and Ezzrett Anderson played well on defense but Piggott was bottled up on his offensive thrusts from halfback along with the rest of the California runners.

## Browns Squeak By

CLEVELAND—A highly keyed Brooklyn Dodger eleven missed by a single point scoring one of the All-America Conference's biggest upheavals here Sunday afternoon as they played th vaunted Cleveland Browns to a 13-12 standstill.

Marion Motley clicked with a number of short gains through the Dodger line, but the Clevelanders, obviously suffering a let-down in the face of what they regarded a "sure" win, was unable to get going in their characteristic steamroller fashion.

Motley and Horace Gillom, long-limbed kicking sensation of the defending champions, started the game. Bill Willis, ex-Ohio line star, was injected into the game early in the first period and played a good portion thereafter.

Elmore Harris, speed-merchant of the Flatbush outfit, saw some action but the muddy condition of the playing field reduced his effectiveness considerably.

## Young, Yanks Win

NEW YORK—Buddy Young and Spec Sanders, white, collaborated to run the pants off the San Francisco 49ers here Sunday afternoon at Yankee Stadium. Sanders did the yeoman work but Young consistently drew two and three 'Frisco defenders out with him as he ran toward the flanks as a decoy.

## Wolverines vs. Thorobreds

FRANKFORT, Ky. — Morris Brown College will meet Kentucky State in a night contest here Saturday in the Thorobreds' final home appearance.

# On the Mixed Collegiate Grid Fronts

Afro-American magazine Baltimore, Md.

Taking the major games involving mixed college football teams in the AFRO's weekly capsule:

Sat. 11-15-47

## Levi Fumbles

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—A fumble by Levi Jackson on his own 7-yard line following a "coffin corner" kick by the opposition, resulted in one of Brown's touchdowns as the latter nipped Yale, 20-14, in an Ivy League upset Saturday. 11-15-47

Jackson, still bothered by an ankle injury, played for a few minutes of the game but was used mostly as a threat. Local fans fear he may not be able to reach peak form at all this season as a result of the injury.

## Grimsley Beats L.U.

EASTON, Pa.—Harvey Grimsley, brilliant fullback of the Rutgers University eleven, tallied three touchdowns in the last quarter of the game to give the New Jerseyans a 20-0 victory over Lafayette here Saturday afternoon.

The first marker was on the end of a 13-yard punch after he and his mates had marched 63 yards on 12 plays in the opening minutes of the period. He scored again, this time from the four, midway of the quarter, and then scampered 33 yards in breath ahead of the final gun.

His teammate, Bucky Hatchett, whom Jerseyans are hailing as a second Paul Robeson, cupped passes of 18 and 19 yards at the high spot of the Scarlet's second drive. 11-15-47

## Pullens Aids

MINNEAPOLIS — Glen Pullens, reserve halfback of Minnesota broke away for a 17-yard gain during the final and deciding touchdown march by the Gophers here Saturday as a favored Purdue eleven was downed, 26-21, before 63,659 spectators.

## 85-Yard Touchdown

EAST LANSING, Mich.—An 85-yard run by Horace Smith, sterling Michigan State halfback, gave the locals the impetus to defeat Santa Clara, 28-0, here Saturday afternoon.

Smith grabbed a handoff from John Poloncak, white, on his own 15, early in the game, and raced all the way to the goal line, shaking off a host of would-be tacklers en route.

## Iowa Bumped

MADISON, Wis. — With Emlen Tunnell, Sherman Banks and John Estes out of the starting lineup since Tunnell's flare-up with Assistant Coach Frank Carideo last week, Iowa suffered a 46-14 shellacking at the hands of Wisconsin here Saturday.

All three of the colored stars played during some part of the game but their performances were ordinary in the face of the Badgers' rout of the visitors.

## Wilberforce to Play in Fruit Bowl

PM New York, N.Y.

The Wilberforce State College eleven, which meets Bergen College in an inter-racial football clash at the Polo Grounds on Thanksgiving Day, has been selected to play in the Fruit Bowl on Dec. 14 in San Francisco. It is the first Negro team to be so honored. Wed. 11-12-47

## Cited for Refusal to Play Without Negroes

Defender Chicago Ill.

LYNN, Mass.

His refusal to leave two Negro players at home in order to play post-season football games in Florida was cited yesterday in the presentation of the Lynn Exchange Clubs 1947 award for Americanism to William I. Joyce, coach at Lynn Classical High School. Sat. 11-22-47

In his presentation speech, the Rev. Daniel A. Thurston said Joyce had refused to "sanction racial bigotry by leaving behind two Negro players on his team in order to qualify for a trip South to play post-season games against Southern opponents in Miami and Jacksonville."

# Missouri Valley Loop Votes To End "Racial Discrimination"

Journal & Guide
Norfolk Va.

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — In one of the three major moves made during its session here last Saturday, the Missouri Valley Athletic Conference voted to end all "racial discrimination" in its member school. Sat. 12-20-47

In one of the actions announced by Prof. E. G. Barrett, president of the conference and chairman of the faculty committee, it was decided that the group would "end all racial discrimination at the conference schools effective September, 1950."

The faculty representatives said the end for racial discrimination among member-schools was set for 1950 in order to give the schools time to adjust their local problems. No further comment was made on the ruling.

There are, at present, only two schools that do not have Negro students and do not compete against Negro athletes on Oklahoma campuses. These schools are Oklahoma A. and M., and Tulsa.

Another action endorsed by the conference was the strengthening of the loop's eligibility rules. In following the current dictates of the conference, member-school are to go "along with the NCAA purity code all the way," Prof. Barrett asserted.

"That applies," he said, "to amateurism, scholarships, recruiting and all other recommendations."

Represented at the sessions were Oklahoma A. and M. Tulsa, Creighton, Wichita and St. Louis University.

# Introducing Triplett, Ace Of Penn State

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By LEM GRAVES JR.

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — Meet Wally Triplett!!!

When Penn State's Nittany Lions answer the referee's starting whistle in the Cotton Bowl at Dallas, Tex., on Jan. 1, the Negro backfield star you will see in the starting lineup will be Wallace Triplett — a small, lightning-fast junior right halfback.

When the Lions go against Southern Methodist University in Texas, the lineup will be different from that which started all this season for Penn State. Sat. 12-13-47

While he stands only 5 feet 9 and one-half inches and weighs only 169 pounds, he will bear watching. You'll find him sitting out on the wing of Coach Bob Higgins single wing power formation and from this position he can do a lot of ball carrying, pass, receiving, pass throwing or blocking.

On defense, he will be playing the defensive right half position in the secondary where he protects a pass zone, returns kicks or makes deadly tackles with a technique he has developed for getting the most out of his 169 pounds when it is necessary to stop a charging 220-pound ball carrier.

He wants to be a football coach and is majoring in physical education. He hopes to get his Masters' degree in physical education at Columbia University.

He wears glasses both in and out of games. For street wear, he uses a pair of ordinary rimless glasses, but on the playing field he wears contact lenses, especially fitted to his eye ball to help him correctly judge passes and punts.

Triplett hails from LaMott, Pa., a suburb of Philadelphia. He played football and basketball at Cheltenham High School in LaMott, but doesn't try basketball at Penn State. The cage season starts almost as early as does football, and besides, they don't use 5 feet, 9 inch midgets in the modern day basketball game.

Athletics is a sort of a family tradition with Triplett. His five brothers all participated in sports at Cheltenham High. Four of them served in the Army during World War II. "Trip," as he is affectionately called by his teammates, was rejected because of his eyes. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Mahlon Triplett of LaMott and his father is a postal employe in Philadelphia.

Wally Triplett is considered by Coach Robert Higgins, as one of the best athletes on the Penn State campus.

**GAINED CONFIDENCE**

When he first reported to Penn State, said one of his instructors, Triplett had a personality defect. He seemed not very sure of himself. This was quickly corrected, and now Triplett is a confident football player who has learned his position well. 12-13-47

The record shows Triplett is the third ranking member of the Penn State team in scoring. He has scored 30 points, ranking behind Jeff Durkota, with 60 points, and Francis Rogel with 36 points. "Trip" has played in all nine games. He has carried the ball for 34 rushes, gaining 187 yards for an average of four yards per try. On pass receiving, Triplett ranks second to Durkota, catching five for 141 yards and two touchdowns.

About his trip to the Cotton Bowl, Triplett says: "I have played against Southern boys before. They are usually nice guys. They like to play football like I do. I don't worry about any 'problems.' The team is with us all the way. I have told the coach that I would not want the team to miss the trip because we may not be allowed to attend a banquet for the team in Dallas. However, I notice that the banquets have been called off. It doesn't matter to me anyway, since I want to rush back to Philadelphia for a few days with my girl before she returns to her college, Virginia Union. I hope I can leave right after the game."

# Talented Negro Stars Goodwill Ambassadors

Daily World, Atlanta Ga.
Sun. 12-28-47

By MARION E. JACKSON

The dominating role of Negro athletes in the second post-war sports year, 1947, goes into the sports history books, as America's number one victory in turning the tide against racism and bigotry. It is now fact, that the remarkable work done on the field of friendly sports, amateur and professional, implemented the work of agencies concerned with bettering race relations, by showing that within the American fabric, that it can happen here. Our athletes were envoys and ambassadors of goodwill and fellowship, here in the United States, where sports until this year, had aped and copied patterns of racial segregation, which gave our national sports a blight and sickness, which struck at the heart of our national heritage of democracy and fair play.

The advent of Negroes into big-time sports was an unwritten Magna Carta and Declaration of Independence from the racial distortions and jim crow of organized athletics and sports. The "For White Only" sign which had hung over collegiate and professional sports came tumbling down like the Bibical Walls of Jericho as our 20th Century Joshuas sounded the deathnell of lilywhite sports.

The onslaught against lilywhite sports actually came with the signing of Marion Motley and Bill Willis by Coach Paul Brown of the Cleveland Browns football team of the All-American Football Conference back in 1946. In the spring of that year Branch Rickey purchased Jackie Robinson from the Kansas City Monarchs and sent to Dodgers farm club Montreal Royals in Montreal, Canada. That was the "Big Break." Negro athletes were in. 12-28-47

Their penetration into the ranks backs to Marion Motley, Bill Willis letics, college, and professional was on a scale undreamed of by the most ambitious fighter for racial rights and the brotherhood of men. The saga of Negroes entrance into the limelight, fame and greenbacks of professional sports, hails beak to Marion Motley, Bill Willis and Jackie Robinson, but the most hopeful part of the story was written in the spring of 1947, when Robinson trained in Havana, with the Motreal Royal, his 1946 team instead of with the Dodgers. There was talk some Dodgers didn't want him on the club. On top of this Baseball Commissioner A. B. "Happy" Chandler suspended Leo Durocher for 1947.

**Branch Rickey summoned Robinson. "This suspension of Durocher puts a thorn in my plans I had planned to have Durocher ask for you on the Dodgers. Now, I will have to make the announcement directly 'Robinson was in!! What he did with the Dodgers in regular season play and the 1947 World Series, is history.**

Following Robinson in to the major Leagues was Larry Doby, who played with the Cleveland Indians and ill-fated Willard "Bill" Brown and Henry "Hank" Thompson, who were let out by the St. Louis Browns after less than two months play. Nate Moreland was signed by the El Centros, Roy Campanella played with the Montrael Royals. Dozens of other sepia diamond artists played in the smaller circuits. To cap off the closing 1947 baseball season Branch Rickey signed Dan Bankhead, who spent a short but troubled month with the Brooklyn Dodgers.

**There was no let up in the progressive strides Negroes were making in major sports. The All-American Football Conference signed Elmore Harris, Brooklyn Dodgers; John Brown, Los Angeles Dons; Buddy Young, New York Yankees; William "Bill" Bass, Chicago Rockets; and the Cleveland Browns added Harry Gillon. These players set the pace during the '47 pigskin season and the Browns and Yankees, both studded with Negro talent played for the league championship, with the Browns emerging victors.**

In the nation's collegiate football picture Gene Derricote, Len Ford, and Levi Mann, paced the powerful Michigan Wolverines to the Big Nine Conference crown and the right to play in the New Year's Day Rose Bowl game in Pasadena. Mighty Penn State went unbeaten with grid illuminaries, Dennis Hoggard and Walter Triplett, sparkling the play of the Nittany Lions. Levi Mann played at Yale. Mel Groomes and George Taliaferro stood out at Indiana. Fred Pierce starred at Harvard. These were only a selected few of the mighty sepia bulldozers, who powered their way through ranking foes and stood out during the '47 football campaign.

**In the boxing world, Joe Louis Sugar Ray Robinson, Ike Williams, Billy Fox, Ezzard Charles, Bob Foxworth, Bob Satterfield, Johnny Bratton, Gene Burton and Jersey Joe Walcott hugged the boxing spotlight and greenbacks, by topping their respective field, in impressive fashion.** 12-28-47

In this category, Joe Louis and Jersey Joe Walcott put boxing back on its pins, even through the majority believed Walcott, was entitled to the decision he didn't get. Walcott had Louis on the floor twice, for a count of seven in the fourth round, only to have the Brown Bomber win a highly unpopular 15 round decision.

Negroes chalked up impressive records in track with Herb McKenley, Harrison Dillard, and a galaxy of tan-tinted cinder artists setting records that will last as long as the sport.

In golf, Zeke Hartsfield, Los Angeles; Benny Philpot, Cleveland; Bill Spillers, Los Angeles; Leonard Reed, Los Angeles; Ted Rhodes, Memphis, Al Seawright, Cleveland, Harold Wheeler, Philadelphia, Kid Thompson Los Angeles and Alfred "Tup" Holmes played the length and breath of the United States in major golf tournaments, showing that Negro golfers have the skill, tenacity, will and sportsmanship necessary to compete in any and all tournaments, held aywhere any time, with, our reference to race, color, or financial status.

**Now net stars gave the sport of tennis a shot in the arm. Champions were hailed in all berths and divisions. Players like George Stewart of Panama, Althea Gibson of Wilmington, N. C., Roumania and Margaret Peters of Tuskegee; Clyde, Thomas, Harold and Howard Freeman of Washington, D. C. Ora Washington of Philadelphia; and other ranking net stars a blistering pace as racquet weilders, stole the spotlight at the 1947 ATA Tennis Meet at Tuskegee Institute.**

Stewart and Gibson, who won the men and women singles championship, respectively were hailed as new stars replacing Lloyd Scott and Jimmy McDaniel, and Roumania Peters, the latter in the women's division.

# Great Athletic Feats Result From Flat Feet

TORONTO, Ontario—Natural flat feet are a great aid to box-

ers, runners and ballet dancers, foot specialists agreed at the recent convention here of the Dominion Association of Chiropodists. Jacksonville Fla

"Our observations have demonstrated that the better athlete and the better ballet dancer all have natural flat feet," said M. L. Cole, Toronto. "That's why the Negroes have so many outstanding athletes, because the Negro normally has a low-arch or flat foot," said Oscar A. Brewton, Negro chiropodist of Toronto. "Jack Johnston, Joe Louis, Jesse Owens and Bill Robinson the dancer, all have natural flat feet. Jan. 11-15-47

"The Negro boxer can absorb blows better because he is standing on all his foot while the white boxer is standing on two parts, the ball and the heel," suggested Ralph E. Sansone, Hartford, Conn. chiropodist, who is president of the American Society of Chiropodial Roentgenalogy. "The average white runner uses the heel and ball of his foot, sometimes just the big toe, but the Negro runner's propelling force is the entire foot."

Mr. Brewton, who has flat feet, said they were a natural inheritance of the Negro, the Eskimo and the Indian. "The planter muscle which extends from the big toe to the back of the heel is much stronger in the Negro than in the white man," said Mr. Brewton. "It's because the forebears of the Negro went barefoot so long in Africa.

"If flat feet are natural because of racial inheritance, as with the Negro, then they are normal. But the white adult whose foot starts to flatten out should get treatment. It's a pathologic condition and must be attended to when the arches of a person with a natural high arch begins to fall."

Mr. Cole said that "all good ballet dancers, of any race, are flat-footed." He said their flat-foot condition was a direct result of their childhood training in ballet dancing when their bones were not yet ossified.

"In a man the bony structure supports the body and the muscles provide balance and motion, but in a child there are between the bones of the feet and the muscles do the work of supporting the body," he concluded.

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md

RECOGNIZE THEM?—These U. of Michigan Wolverines, without their grid outfits, are Jack Weisenburger, Chalmers Elliott, Len Ford, Bob Mann and All-American Bob Chappuis. They were among 100 college stars honored at the benefit Winter Ball in NYC recently.

# Brilliant Wichita U. Halfback Has Gained More Than 2 Miles in 4 Years on Grid

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md

WICHITA, Kansas — Linwood Sexton, halfback and one of the University of Wichita's all-time grid greats, will close four brilliant years of college football when his Shocker team meets the powerful College of the Pacific team in the annual Raisin Bowl game in Fresno, Calif., New Year's Day.

The sensational athlete was recently selected to the All-Missouri Valley Conference first team for the third consecutive year. New Year's Day he completes his fourth straight season as the Shockers' starting left halfback. In that time he has run and passed for gains totaling more than two miles against Shocker foes and has crossed enemy goal lines 27 times.

This season he ran for 702 yards in 92 plays for the Missouri Valley ground gaining leadership, passed for 312 more, and finished with a total of 1014 yards total offense for the season.

**Scored 4 Touchdowns**

His greatest individual performance for 1947 came against one of the Wichita team's strongest foes, St. Louis University, when he gained 176 yards on 15 rushing plays and finished the game with 201 total yards rushing and passing. In his final game in Wichita Thanksgiving Day with Colorado College, he gained 176 net yards, passed for one touchdown and scored two more.

His biggest scoring spree at the Shocker school came in the 1945 season opener against Doane College when he scored four touchdowns, passed for another, and gained upwards of 300 yards.

One of the steadying influences on past University teams, his greatness is shown by the fact that in his college career he has carried the ball more than 500 times for an average exceeding five and one-half yards per carry over that four-year span. In addition he has rolled up approximately 1000 yards by passing. 12-13-47

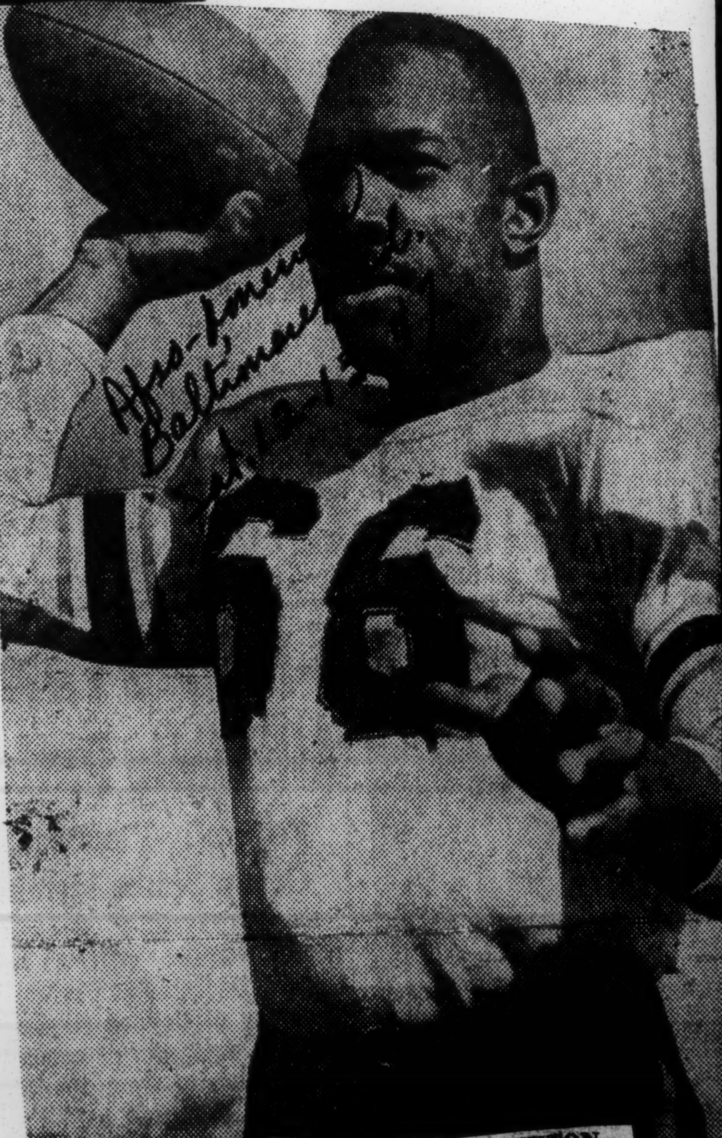
**Number to Be Retired**

This season in total offense, including running and passing, Sexton gained 94 yards against Warrenburg, against Utah State he made 90, Bradley 47, Drake 111, Abilene Christian College 87, Arizona State of Flagstaff 102, St. Louis 201, Miami of Ohio 106, and Colorado College 176 yards. He missed the Tulsa contest.

Some of Sexton's greatest assets to the team, however, do not appear in football statistics. His vicious tackling and all-round defensive play, and his spirit and courage have made him a fine competitor and a great athlete.

Sexton's familiar number "66" will be missed next season not only by the team and coaching staff, but by the thousands of fans who have watched the Wichita athlete make football history at the university.

To show its high regard for Linwood Sexton, the University of Wichita has retired his football jersey, and the number "66" will never again be worn by a Shocker football player.



LINWOOD SEXTON

51g 1947 General

## Students Vote For Democracy

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Students of the University of California have taken a significant step in the direction of interracial goodwill on their school campus. The University is seeking the services of a new coach. In a pointed resolution, the students asked officials to do considerable screening of candidates before hiring any of them, as to their attitude on race. Presented by the Student Cabinet of the University YMCA, the resolution reads: Wed. 1-29-47

First, that in choosing the new football coach it be ascertained that his racial attitudes are such that all candidates for teams will be considered on their merits and without respect to race . . .

Second, that scheduling athletic contests a policy be made that no opponents be included whose racial policies are such that they might prove detrimental or embarrassing to any member of competing California teams.

The attitude expressed here through the students' resolution is indicative of a growing tolerance in a number of colleges, North and South alike. It emphasizes once again, the logic that intolerance and racial prejudice are most zealously defended by the elders, rather than the youth, of America. Already, the University of California has made some progress in the direction of democracy through the hiring of a Negro as line coach. Even this small gesture is sufficient for other great Universities to follow.

Finally, we might add that there is a noticeable trend in a few other institutions, which in their desire to be fair by Negoes, are refusing to play southern schools which now object to playing against Negro members of their teams. All schools in the name of democracy, should follow this trend. For no matter how strongly willed a Negro player on a white team may be, when a school bows to that sort of jim crow bias, it cannot fail in doing violence to his personality. Wed. 1-29-47

## Motley, Willis Win Berths On All-Loop Team

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Marion Motley and Bill Willis, Cleveland Browns' two Negro stars, were named to the All-America Conference first team. They were two of the four Cleveland gridders slected with varsity slots on the circuit selections. Motley polled 30½ points to decisively edge San Francisco's Norm Standlee with 21. Only three other men drew any votes at all for the first-string fullback slot. Bill Willis won the guard selection with 17½ votes to nose out Bill Radovich of Los Angeles with 16. Mon. 1-6-47

The other two Cleveland players named on the first team included Otto Graham at quarterback and Dante Lavelli at end.

Brooklyn's Glenn Dobbs drew the highest total votes with 41½ and was the only player whose name appeared on every ballot. The Yanks' Spec Sanders followed with 36½ for the other halfback position.

The AAC's second string backfield lists Standlee, Juzwik, Hoernschmeyer, and Albert. Mon. 1-6-47

## Potency Of Football Training In Race Colleges Faces Test

Journal and Guide

By ALVIN E. WHITE

NEW YORK—(ANP)—Do football players from Negro colleges play the same type of football played in white schools?

This question is going to be answered this year in the All-American conference by one or two colored players who got their pigskin knowledge in schools coached by colored tutors. To wit, Morgan College's Elmore Harris and perhaps one or two others who got their fundamentals in Negro colleges.

Football is footbal, and nowadays with Negroes alerted to the possibilities of the profession, both as players and as coaches, colored youths attending the better colored colleges are getting the best training a coach can give.

**CLINICS** Norfolk, Va.

Eeach year, colored coaches attend clinics conducted by top flight coaches, as do white coaches from smaller schools. They also hold football clinics in Negro colleges which are lectured and led by white coaches of national repute.

Once a coach of a semi-pro outfit in New York loudly berated colored players who were not fortunate enough to go to white colleges—until a chap named Sodie White, a center from Talladega, arrived on the scene. White got his fundamentals in the celebrated Crispus Attucks High School in Gary. He was one of the greatest centers ever, followers of Red Dabney et al to the contrary. White did everything, and the game in which he failed to block a punt or intercept a pass was indeed a poor day for him. 9-6-47

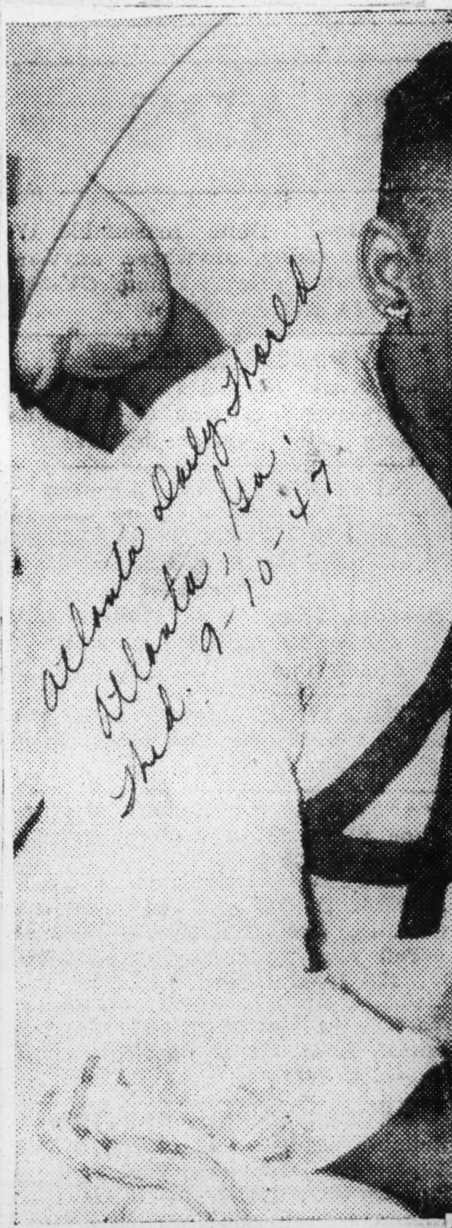
Weighing around 200, he was faster than a center would be, and diagnostician backing up a line, he was without peer. Wherever Sodie played as captain of a colored semi-pro outfit that traveled out of New York, white managers tried to sign him up. In fact, the coach mentioned above desperately tried to land Sodie and appealed every Sunday over the loud speakers in his pary for information concerning Sodie's whereabouts.

**SCHOOL DOESN'T MATTER**

It is not the school a man attends. If he is born with football sense, he is like any other talented athlete. Sat.

Perhaps the difference lies in the material available for white coaches, compared with material available for colored coaches, including the athletic program at the school or the support accorded a coach. In spring training, a big white school coach seldom sees all of the candidates who turn out, but when he meets the squad which will represent his handiwork in the fall, the sheep have been separated from the goats by assistant coaches and he knows what material he will have available.

In some Negro institutions, the coaching system is not what it could be. Finally, it is not the school, it is not the coach, it is the individual.



RETURNS TO INDIANA — Coach Bo McMillin was all smiles, when George Taliaferro, the Hoosiers' running threat in 1945, and an all-conference selection, returned to Indiana after a year in the Army. Taliaferro had a great season at Indiana in 1945, when the Hoosiers won the Big Nine championship. Playing at left half, the 17-year old freshman from Gary, Indiana, carried the ball 156 times for 719 yards. Completed 10 passes in 19 attempts with no interceptions for 96 yards Caught five passes for 77 yards and intercepted five passes for run backs of 113 yards. Returned five punts 57 yds. and two kick offs for 120 yards. His punting average for 40 kicks was 33 yards. Taliaferro answers the $64 question Coach McMillin couldn't answer last fall. Taliaferro may not run over the opposiiton like he did in 1945, but he will present a reasonable facsimile thereof. Coach McMillin calls Taliaferro the best back he's coached in 25 years.

# In this Corner

## Chatting With Browns' Motley, Willis

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.
Sat. 9-13-47

By Bill Mardo

IT EASED UP when they took to the Ebbets Field turf four hours later, but in room 2833 of the Hotel New Yorker yesterday afternoon the heat hung like a soggy blanket as Marion Motley and Bill Willis lay in their under-shorts on the bed listening to the Yankee baseball game.

I had come to talk football with these two illustrious members of the Cleveland Browns, but first off I just had to tell them Jackie Robinson had won "Rookie of the Year" honors and Motley dropped the digest magazine he was reading and said slowly with deep feeling.

**"Well that's good, very good!"**

He's a giant of a man, this 225-pound broadbacked six foot one-er, and he speaks quietly with considerable thought to each question. He's a Dodger fan but worries lest the tension tell on the young Brooklyn baseballers. **"If they don't tighten up and get too wild, they'll win it."**

**Motley and Willis, you surely know, were the first two Negroes signed in the All-America Conference last year and their gridiron exploits with Cleveland were good enough to make Marion the league's leading plunger on yards gained per try, 8.4, and both he and Willis made the loop's All-Star selections.**

### ALL-ROUND ACE

Born in Leedsburg, Georgia, Motley migrated north at the bare age of two, and the family set up house in Canton, Ohio. **"I went to Canton-McKinley High out there and made the varsity basketball and football squads,"** the brawny guy with the deep-set eyes and slightly Indianish features said. He went out for track too, and although he berated his speed afoot, it was because he **could** trot the 100 in ten flat that his coach shifted him from guard to the left halfback slot. **"I had to give up track because it was too strenuous coming on top of football and basketball."**

Marion held down the center jump with Canton's hoopsters and made All-State honors in that department and football in 1938.

**MOTLEY ENTERED** the University of Nevada in 1940, and immediately picked up where he'd left off at high school. **"I made the football and basketball varsities my first year—there was no conference then."** A little prodding revealed he gained All-America mention and the All-Coast second team. To him this seemed unimportant and he felt he could've played better (!) football at Nevada if there was a bigger squad.

Sat. 9-13-47

**"We only had 25 guys on the team and it was pretty rough. I used to play 60 minutes of every game, ball carrying, backing up the line and all that, and maybe I could've done better if I'd gotten some rest during each game."**

Marion left school at the end of '43, got his draft call in Canton but was turned down because of trick knees. But next year the Navy accepted him and he put in 18 months at the Great Lakes Naval Station, where he also put in some football time as you'd imagine.

**"One fellow I'll never forget from that team is Billy Bye,"** he grinned broadly. **"Oh he was such a small guy and so shifty. We'd give him the ball to carry and they'd never lay a hand on him. He wasn't parteicularly fast—just shifty."**

### BUDDY WILL DO OKAY

Talking of small ball-carriers, I asked him how Buddy Young figured to do with the big pros. **"It'll be rough for him, but Buddy's speed will make up for his size. He may get roughed up, but remember this—nobody can play good football and rough somebody up at the same time. If a fellow's out to rough up a ball-carrier he usually forgets all his technique and loses whatever chance he's got of catching the runner. Yeah, Buddy'll be okay."**

After his Navy discharge, Marion went back home and when he heard about the new AAC forming, he wrote a letter to Cleveland coach Paul Brown.

**"I knew there'd never been any Negroes in the National Football League for 15 years but I thought I'd ask Brown what the chances were in the new league. He wrote back saying his squad was all filled up. I was going back to Nevada when I heard from Brown again, saying they had to return Fritsch to the Green Bay Packers and to come on down for a tryout."**

**DID HE** and Willis get their tryouts simultaneously? The tall guard on the other side of the room picked up his head from a newspaper and answered for himself. **"No, I had reported a few weeks earlier for my tryout."** The former Ohio All-American had just written asking for a crack at the job, and was told to come ahead.

**Bill, who made All-American at Ohio in '44, two years earlier had played against Buddy Young. "Oh he's a great football player." And then he recollected with a quiet touch of awe. "The year I played against him was the same season he tied Red Grange's record."**

Both Motley and Willis are P.T. majors and hope to take it up permanently when the pro days are done with.

### 'EVERYTHING SWELL'

Sat. 9-13-47

About last year when they were alone in busting Jimcrow, except for Washington and Strode over in the NFL. **"Everybody was swell,"** Motley said sincerely. **"It was good rough football and nothing else. No incidents, no name-calling."** They room together at the same hotels the rest of the Browns do, **"and if there's ever been any fuss made about it, I don't know, because the club's business manager handles all those arrangements."**

There are five or six southerners on the Browns, **"and we all get along swell."** Motley well remembered that fine story of last year, when his old alma-mater cancelled a game with Mississippi U, which insisted that Negro stars Horace Gillom and Bill Bass be left home. **"Yes, I heard the students stood up behind the boys. They've got a fine democratic spirit at Nevada."**

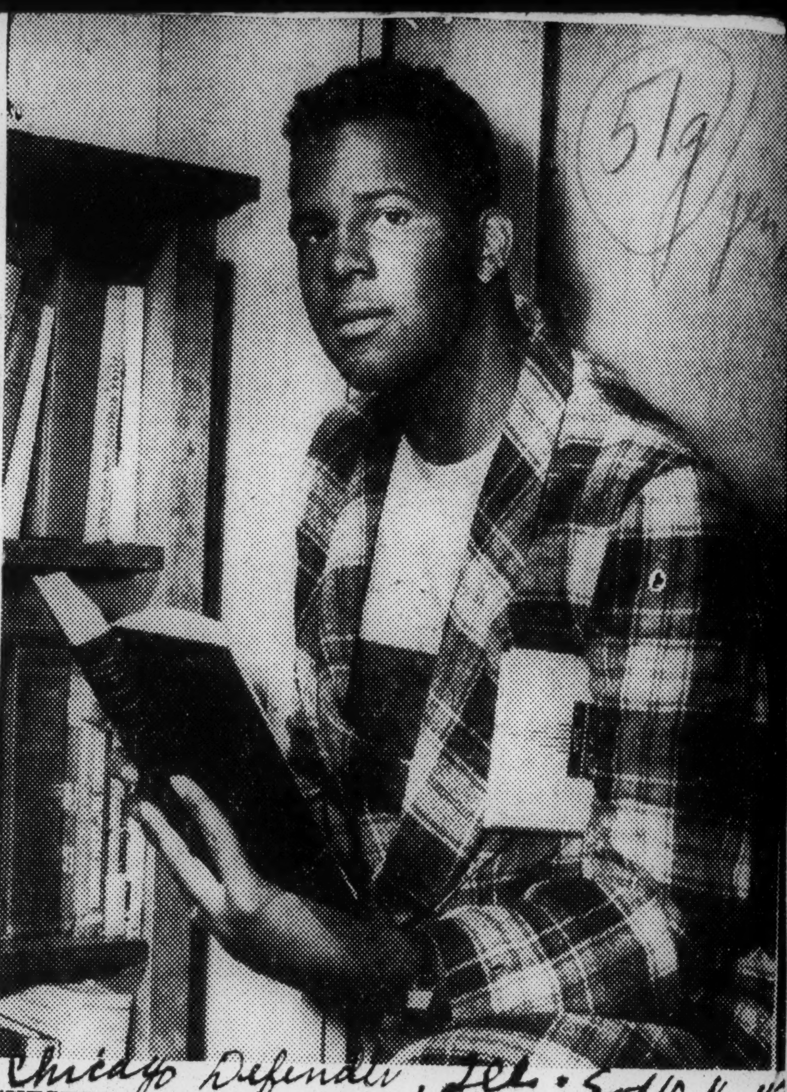
Gillom, now with the Browns but out when we called, averaged 47 yards per punt on six boots against Buffalo last week.

About the rest of the league. **"You can't underestimate any of them. All the clubs are stronger right down the line, and that goes for the NFL too.**

**"Yes,"** Motley smiled, **"Id like to see a football World Series between the two leagues."**

Motley expressed these sentiments for Willis and himself as we said goodbye. **"Jimcrow is taking quite a beating in most sports Time will be when it'll be gone altogether, and everyone will get a chance.**

**"You know,"** Motley added, **"sports fans are just interested in seeing good clean sport."**



Chicago Defender, Ill. Sat 10-4-47

**CHESTER PIERCE, 20, Harvard University lineman, who will be the first Negro to play on a white team on Virginia's soil when the Crimson eleven plays the University of Virginia on Oct. 11. A poll taken among the University of Virginia players indicated that they had "no objection" to Pierce's playing. Pierce, whose home is in Glen Cove, N. Y., is shown catching up on his studies. —Acme photo.**

# Two Negroes In Hawkeyes Grid Line-Up

Houston Informer, Sat.

**LOS ANGELES, Calif., Sept. — (NNPA) — Two colored backfield men of the Iowa Hawkeyes, teamed together in the closing seconds of the first half here last Friday night and kept the Hawkeyes from being whitewashed before 89,800 fans by the powerhouse of the University of California at Los Angeles.**

**With ten seconds to play in the first half, John Estes, substitute fullback for the Hawkeyes flipped a lateral pass to veteran Emlen Tunnell who grabbed it on his own 43, reversed his field and dashed 57 yards for the lone Iowa tally. Tunnell was given superb blocking by the Iowa team on his run.** 10-4-47

# Mann, Derricotte Score As Michigan Mauls Stanford

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — (NNPA) — Bob Mann and Gene Derricote contributed three touchdowns here last Saturday as the Michigan powerhouse rolled over Stanford 49-13 before 66,000 spectators.

Mann scored his touchdown on a "sleeper" on the second offensive play of the game.

10-11-47

Bob Chappius found Mann on the sleeper far out to the left and hurledhim a pass from his own 30.

Mann caught the pass on the Stanford 30 and polished off the distance to the goal line with a brilliant broken field run.

Derricote who scored twice, got his first touchdown as the climax of a 55 yard drive which he himself sparked with a 32 yard pass to Ed McNeil. He went over from the one yard line after the stubborn Stanford line had held for three downs inside the ten yard stripe.

Gene's second touchdown came shortly before the end of the first half when Michigan intercepted a Stanford pass and ran it back to the four yard line: After an incomplete pass, Derricotte plunged over in two tries.

Lon Ford, Michigan end, also took a hand in the rout of the Californians.

Norman Ward, Wilberforce halfback, snares a pass in the first quarter of the game with Bergen at the Polo Grounds yesterday. He was downed by Dan Luciano (11) of Bergen.

# Wilberforce Rolls Over Bergen, 40-12

P.M. 51g

Scoring in every period, Wilderforce State College of Xenia, O., rolled over Bergen Junior College of Teaneck, N. J., 40-12, yesterday before 16,000 shivering fans at the Polo Grounds.

Hailed as the first inter-racial football game in the Metropolitan area, the crowd saw the Negro eleven get out in front early in the game and stay there all the way.

Blake White, substitute left end, tallied twice for the Ohio outfit, snaring a pass from Verdese Carter which went for 40 yards, and also grabbed one from Fred Hall. The play started on the Bergen 39, White taking the ball on the 16 and scooting the rest of the way for the six-pointer.

***Hall Adds To Score*** 11-28-47

Hall also contributed to the scoring, kicking three extra points and going over for a touchdown himself.

Carter's passing helped the victors, as he completed five out of eight tosses for 106 yards, while Walt Leonard played well for the losers.

Dan Luciano, Bergen quarterback, suffered a fracture of the right tibia in the second period and was removed to Dumont, N. J. hospital.

The Indians' first tally, which made the score 13-6, came on Tony Gobe's toss to Tom Fallat from the 9, complete into the end zone, with just ten seconds left in the half, as Bergen moved 42 yards in five plays. Another Gobeo heave, this one to Jack Fabris for 19 yards, also helped in this drive.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| WILBERFORCE | 7 | 6 | 13 | 14 | —40 |
| BERGEN | 0 | 6 | 6 | 0 | —12 |

Wilberforce Scoring: Touchdown: Gilyard, Sellers, White (for Woods) 2, Hall, Price (for Ford). Point after Touchdown—Hall 3, (placekicks). Ward (for Sellers) to Gilyard (pass).

Bergen Scoring: Touchdown: Fallat, Taylor.

# White Team Plays Negroes In South

The Courier Journal, Louisville, Ky.

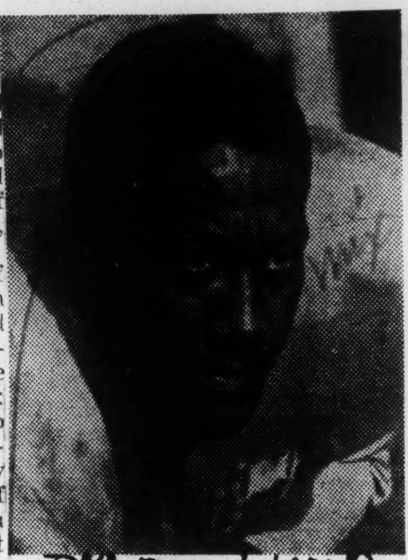
Durham, N. C., Nov. 23 (P)—The first football game to be played between a team of Negroes and a team of whites in the South featured the third annual Piedmont Tobacco Bowl game here today at the Durham Athletic Park. 11-24-47

Before a nonsegregated crowd of about 3,000 Negroes and whites, the Vulpine Athletic Club of Philadelphia, the whites, and the Willow Tree Athletic Club of Washington, the Negro team, played to a 6-6 tie.

Lewis E. Austin, publisher of The Carolina Times, a Durham Negro weekly newspaper, and president of the Piedmont Tobacco Bowl Corporation, told the Associated Press after the game:

"We arranged this game to show subversive elements in foreign countries—and particularly in Russia—that the members of the different races in America can play together as well as fight a common enemy together, as we did in the Second World War."

Austin declared today's game was as fine a demonstration of good sportsmanship on the part of both the players and the spectators "as I have ever seen."



P.M. New York

Ken Blackburn will be at guard for Wilberforce when the Ohio team faces Bergen College at the Polo Grounds today. 11-27-47

# Interracial Tilt Is Holiday Bill

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

11-25-47

The big gent above is Dalmar Woods, just one of the high-powered backs on the Wilberforce State College all-Negro eleven which tangles with Bergen College at the Polo Grounds Thanksgiving afternoon.

Wilberforce checked into New York yesterday after the trip from hometown Senia, Ohio, while their foes from Jersey sharpen up with a big bonfire celebration on the Teaneck campus tonight. The interracial tilt, first interracial college game ever staged in New York, also happens to be the only attraction here that afternoon and a nice turnout is expected with proceeds going to a charitable cause.

Both clubs have only lost one game this season, with Wilberforce already scheduled for the Fruit Bowl in San Francisco on December 14th and also the Vulcan Bown in Alabama New Year's Day. 11-25-47

Bergen is pinning its hopes on star left halfback Ed Jasonek, already eyed by proscouts.

Testing Bergen's defenses to the limit will be Wilberforce's big gun, quarterback Freddie Hall who cocaptains the club with guard Ken Blackburn.

# Inter-Racial Game at Polo Grounds

P.M. New York, N.Y. 11-27-47

Today's football special at the Polo Grounds between Wilberforce State College and Bergen College of Teaneck, N. J. is the first interracial college game ever played in New York and the only Thanksgiving college game sceduled here.

Coach Bob Trocolor of Bergen College is confident that his football team can take the strong Wilberforce State College eleven. Bob pins his hopes on his star left halfback, 215 pound Ed Jasonek.

There will be several pro coaches in the stands watching big Ed, 20-year-old G.I. from Wallington, N. J. Although only a freshman, Jasonek already has received several pro offers. Coach Trocolor, former Giant player, modestly rates his star as a far better freshman than he (Trocolor) ever was.

The Bergen coach rates Jasonek his ace man, with 212-pound Tom Fallat at fullback an able complement to the triple-threater. Bob Taylor, Bergen's 188-pound Negro right halfback, is reputedly the fastest man in college football.

Both Bergen and Wilberforce use the T, but Bergen uses an unbalanced line, a formation devised by Trocolor, who has written a book about it, pointing out the advantages of a strong side line over the balanced line. 11-27-47

In the line, Bergen's major performer is 262-pound Walt Leonard. A senior, Leonard formerly played with William and Mary.

# Ford, Mann On Midwest Grid Pick

Daily World, Atlanta, Ga. 12-4-47

CHICAGO, Ill. — (GNS) — Lem Ford and Robert Mann, Michigan's great ends, were named among the eleven first choice for the All Mid West team in the first feelers leading to the picking of the All-American team.

The poll, conducted by the August Chicago Tribune among the 120 major football teams throughout the country, tested 791 players to get the All-Mid West Team. The players stemmed from 22 midwestern teams and their 37 intersectional opponents. Basing their selections on allaround performances winners thus stack up because they have shone in every game from their rival's viewpoint. Other Michiganite to be named with Ford and Mann was Chamers (Bump) Elliott brilliant half back.

All East winners will be tabulated next with final all American selections made December 6.

# 16,000 See Negro College Win Inter-Racial Tilt

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

In the first inter-racial intercollegiate football game ever played in New York, Wilberforce University, Ohio Negro college, rolled over Bergen College of New Jersey yesterday at the Polo Grounds before 16,000 fans, 40-12. Fri.

The Ohioans, flashing a hard running attack led by the speedy Seller and a passing attack alternating between Carter, Seller and Hall, displayed a clear superiority over the game Bergen outfit. Outstanding for the losers were Taylor, fleet Negro back, Gobeo, a fine passer, and Jasonec, plunging fullback.

Wiberforce took a 13-0 lead in the first period when Carter passed to Gilyard in the end zone and Hall kicked the point, and a little later Seller broke loose for a 30 yard jaunt into paydirt. 11-28-47

Bergen came back into contention in the second quarter after a 'Force fumble. Some hard plunging by Jasonek helped carry the ball to the 9 from where Saller caught a scoring pass from Gobeo, leaving the score 13-6 at the half. Fri.

A sixty yard pass play from Hall to White made it 20-12 as the second half opened. Bergen struck back when Taylor broke away behind nice blocking from the 30 for a touchdown. A 26 yard pass from Carter to White and a 45-yard pass play from Seller to Hall for another racked up the score for the Ohioans. Price went over for the final tally from the 13 to turn the game into a route.

Luciano of Bergen suffered a fractured fibia in the third quarter.

Bergen was slightly overmatched against a high scoring powerhouse that had run up a 102-0 score against the Wright Field Army team.

# On the Mixed Collegiate Grid Fronts

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
11-22-47

Taking the major games involving the mixed college football gamesin the AFRO's weekly capsule:

## Iowa Guard Shines

IOWA CITY — Earl Banks, stellar guard of the Iowa Hawkeyes and former high school captain of Buddy Young, became the individual star of Saturday's 13-7 Iowa victory over favored Minnesota here.

Banks, playing his usually steady defensive game, pressed Minnesota's Bob Smith on an attempted running play deep in Gopher territory and caused him to fumble. Banks fell on the ball on the 3-yard line with the score 6-6, and a moment later his mates had scored the winning touchdown. 11-27-47

Emlen Tunnell was in the starting backfield for the winners and Johnny Estes also saw action. The Gophers' Glenn Pullens did not get the call.

## Michigan to Bowl

MADISON, Wisc. — The Michigan Wolverines, with Gene Derricotte, Lenny Ford and Bob Mann, assured themselves a place in the Rose Bowl at Pasadena, New Year's Day, when they trounced an upstart Wisconsin eleven, 40-6 here Saturday in miserable weather. A morning snowstorm turned into rain and the shivering crowd of 45,000 appeared happy when it was over.

Highlighting the Wolverine avalanche was a thrilling 77-yard punt return by Derricotte for the second of Michigan's six touchdowns. At the height of the third march to score, Mann took a 23-yard pass from Bob Chappuis, white, to set up the tally. Still another Wolverine counter followed when Ford, overtaking the Badgers' Clarence Self, white, after a 70 yard run with kickoff, tackled the runner with such authority that he fumbled and Michigan recovered.

As a result of Saturday's triumph, the Wolevrines clinched the Big Nine title and are automatically invited to the Pasadena classic, regardless of what happens when the Wolverines meet Ohio State next Saturday.

## Smith Whips Temple

PHILADELPHIA — Halfback Horace Smith, who was one of the outstanding individual athletes during the 1947 collegiate track season, romped to two touchdowns and enabled the Michigan State College eleven to down Temple University, 14-6, here Saturday.

The slender scatback took a pass from substitute Eugene Glick, white, on the Temple 25 and went the rest of the way for his second period touchdown. The second marker was tacked on behind a 72-yard sprint down the sideline after Temple had punted to the State 28.

## Patterson Gallops

COLUMBUS — Paul Patterson, former scatback twin of Buddy Young, galloped 28 yards to a touchdown at the height of a 28-7 victory annexed by Illinois over Ohio State here Saturday.

Ike Owens saw action at end for the Illini and both Jim Clark and Bob Dorsey were called upon by the Buckeyes. The former, credited with the last-minute victory over Northwestern last Saturday, was in the locals' starting lineup.

# Tarheels See First Mixed Grid Game

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 11-29-47

DURHAM, N.C. — Willowtree A.C., independent eleven of Washington, D.C., played the Philadelphia Vulpine A.C., white, to a 6-6 stalemate here Sunday as the third annual Tobacco Bowl game featured North Carolina's first interracial football contest.

The game went off "without incident," according to officials and both players and spectators shared in the fine sportsmanship which prevailed. There was no segregation in seating. Sat. 11-29-47

Lewis E. Austin, local newspaperman who promotes the Tobacco Bowl affair, said that the colored-white competition was arranged "to show subversive elements in foreign countries — and particularly in Russia — that members of different races in American can play together as well as fight a common enemy together."

Austin said further that the purpose of the game was to promote good will between the races in the South.

Officials of the competing teams, Austin declared, have expressed a wish to meet again next year to play off the tie.

All Aboard for Dallas!

# Triplett, Hoggard On Penn State's Special to Texas

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat. 11-27-47

By LEM GRAVES Jr.

ABOARD THE PENN STATE SPECIAL, ENROUTE TO DALLAS —The Altoona, Pa., Chamber of Commerce may have other things to say about its fair city but in Central Pennsylvania it is now most noted as the city in which the Nittany Lions of Penn State College boarded the special train which was to take them to the Cotton Bowl in Dallas, Texas. 11-27-47

While the proud people of Central Pennsylvania noisily acclaimed their gridders, a party of forty men, including coaches and managers, trooped on the "St. Louisian," crack Pennsylvania Railroad train, for the journey to Dallas.

**TRIPLETT, HOGGARD ABOARD**

In this group were two youths who have more than a purely grid interest in the trip. They are Wally Triplett, diminutive Penn State wingback, and Dennie Hoggard, fast, bruising end. They are Penn State's two Negro stars and when they enter the lineup against Southern Methodist University in Dallas, it will mark a new advance sports pages, which, in this section of Pennsylvania, have been dedicated almost entirely to Penn State and the Cotton Bowl game.

**SLEPT PEACEFULLY**

Then, shortly after the train left Pittsburgh, these lads dropped off to sleep, perfectly unaware that when they woke up in St. Louis the next day, they would begin to travel in a section of the country where they might be expected to meet some hostility.

For Triplett and Hoggard and their fine teammates, all of whom have shown an admirable courage in turning down previous bids of this type unless assured that no difference would be made as far as their Negro stars were concerned, it was just another ball game.

On this first leg of our journey, there was no tension at all.

JUNIOR COLLEGE NO MATCH

# Wilberforce State In Easy Interracial Win

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.
Sat 12-6-47

NEW YORK—(NNPA) — In an exciting but unequal contest, billed as New York's first interracial collegiate football game, Wilberforce defeated Bergen Junior College of Teaneck, New Jersey, 40-12, at the Polo Grounds on Thanksgiving Day, before a crowd of about 10,000.

Wilberforce, coached by Gaston Lewis, displayed unusual speed and was well drilled in the intricacies of the T-formation.

Bergen, coached by Bob Trocolor, was overmatched and did well to hold Wilberforce to a 13 to 6 score at half time.

**Wave Bigger**

The bigger and faster Wilberforce team did not get going until near the end of the first quarter when Mike Carter threw to Gilyard, an end, for a touchdown.

Walt Sellers, a halfback, scored from ten yards out in the second quarter, and Mike Carter threw two more touchdown passes, both to Blake White, substitute end. Sellars threw one to Fred Hall, the starting quarterback, and Jim Price, substitute halfback, ran fourteen yards for the final score.

Hall made three conversions and Norman Ward, halfback, passed to Gilyard for another.

**Bergen Moves**

Bergen began to move the ball after Wilberforce had scored two touchdowns and been stopped just short of another. Tony Gobee, replaced Dan Luciano Berger's starting quarteback, after the latter had suffered a leg fracture in the second period, and passed to Tom Fallat, right halfback, for a touchdown as the half ended.

Bob Taylor, a colored halfback, ran thirty yards for the second Berger touchdown at the end of a drive which covered 68 yards.

Bergen had passes intercepted in the end zone twice, once in the third period from the 13-yard line, and again in the fourth inside the 5.

The line-up

| WILBERFORCE | POS. | BERGEN |
|---|---|---|
| Woods | LE | Fabris |
| V. Carter | LT | Bryan |
| Tolliver | LG | Hamilton |
| Johnson | C | Gozzalo |
| Blackburn | RG | Bracchi |
| McCullough | RT | Leonard |
| Gilyard | RE | Fisco |
| Hall | QB | Luciano |
| Sellers | LH | Taylor |
| Ford | RH | Jasonek |
| Tipton | FB | Fallat |

(Bergen Junior College) team faced a colored squad representing Wilberforce, of Xenia, Ohio. This first interracial clash saw Wilberforce win, 40-12.

Let's keep the good work up with a special bow to Commissioner Sam Battles and "First Lady" . . . Eleanor Roosevelt. I shall always refer to sports as the "great leveler" and if playtime can bring white and colored together as one, I say . . . . "let the good news ring out."

# Earl Banks Is Named 'Gridman Of The Year'

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

By CHUCK SMITH

IOWA CITY, Ia.—Earl Banks, University of Iowa guard, has been selected as one of the outstanding gridmen of the year by a special committee of newspaper and radio sports experts.

He received the following telegram Thursday afternoon:

"You have been selected by a special committee of newspaper and radio sports experts as outstanding football player of the year. This year's winter ball and winner will be held at the Waldorf Astoria, New York City on Saturday evening, Nov. 29, to honor the football players selected by the committee of sport writers. Therefore we invite you to attend the dinner and the ball with any girl of your selection at our expense including railroad fare and hotel accommodations at Waldorf Astoria and receive your special gift to be presented by the committee headed by the mayor of New York City. Sat. 11-15-47

"Please wire me collect your exceptance to 47-51 33rd st., Long Island City, N. Y., or phone reverse charge Plaza, 5-4306 if further information required. Congratulations. Walter S. Mack, member of ball executive committee."

Mack is an executive in the Pepsi-Cola Company.

* * *

**BANKS MADE** all-Big Nine last season and was rated one of the top linemen in the country.

He was in the starting Hawkeye lineup this year until the Iowa-UCLA clash. After that game Coach Eddie Anderson "benched" him. However, despite losing his starting berth to Ray Carlson, he has remained an important cog in the Hawkeye line, both on defense and offense. Defender

In the eyes of some mid-western sport writers, he has lost the "zip" that made him the terror of the Mid-West last year. Chicago, Ill.

Banks' home is in Chicago. He is a graduate of Wendell Phillips high school, Chicago, where he made all-city and all-state in 1943. This is the team that won the city championship. Sat. 11-15-47

He entered the service in August of 1944 and upon his discharge, enrolled at the University of Iowa in 1946.

# Jackie Buys Tix for Disabled Vets to See Interracial Tilt

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

Jackie Robinson, picked as "rookie of the year" by baseball scribes, has bought 50 tickets for distribution among disabled veterans for the Thanksgiving Day game at the Polo Grounds between Wilberforce State College, of Xenia, Ohio, and Bergen College, of Teaneck, N. J.

It will be the first inter-racial intercollegiate game ever played in New York City. The only other inter-racial gridiron contests have been between all-star teams or Service Squads. 11-19-47 wed.

Wilberforce, top team in the Negro college circuit, has compiled a brilliant record this season, including a 101 to 0 victory over the Wright Field Kittyhawks. Other victims were Kentucky State, Tuskegee, and Lincoln. They lost one game to Tennesee State.

Wilberforce has received two "bowl" bids—the "Fruit Bowl" game in San Francisco, and the "Vulcan Bowl" game in Birmingham, Ala. 11-19-47 wed.

Bergen College, coached by Bob Trocolor, former Giant halfback and Giant baseball scout, has won five and lost two to date.

A victory for Bergen College will insure a bid for the little Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California, while Wilberforce is already scheduled for the Fruit Bowl in San Francisco.

Several organizations leading the fight against juvenile delinquency will benefit from the proceeds of this Thanksgiving intracial gridiron clash.

51g 1947 Levi Jackson

## 'CHES' WASHINGTON . . . Levi Lost to Elis

Yale has a right to be singing the blues over the loss of Levi Jackson, brilliant sophomore fullback who suffered a slight game concussion in the Cornell game last Saturday.

**Young Levi of Old Eli was not only one of Yale's most versatile backs, but he was also one of the most popular players on the Blues' squad.**

Reports from New Haven say that the Bulldogs began "frothing at the mouth" after Jackson was roughed up by a Cornell tackler. In fact, they got so mad that they scored two touchdowns to win a 14-0 victory.

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

**Last season up at Cambridge we saw the mighty crowd roar its disapproval on two occasions when the Harvards tried roughing Levi. But the young New Haven hurricane came through to be the most spectacular hero of the Blues' triumph over the Crimson. And it was heart-warming to hear the tribute paid him by the democratic multitude.**

Sat. 10-11-47

Eli's coach, Howie Odell told us after the game that Levi was by far one of the most popular players on the team . . . and a fine, modest gentleman.

**So the Yale team, its coach and the blue-blooded New England fans are all hoping that Eli's Levi will be back into action again soon for the battering Bulldogs.**

# ALL-WHITE TEAM WELCOMES NEGRO

RICHMOND, Va.—Thomas Jefferson, founder of the University of Virginia, would be very happy indeed to hear of the action taken by the white students there when they voted unanimously to welcome Chester Pierce as one of their opponents on the Harvard University football team for a game scheduled to be played at Charlottesville, Va.

One of Jefferson's prized accomplishments which he asked to be engraved on his tomb-stone was the founding of this University, which was to be a center of liberal education. Unfortunately the ruling bourbons of the South have maintained this as a lily-white university.

But now the students of the University have agreed unanimously to play football with a Negro player, Chester Pierce. This is the first such action that has been taken by any Southern university and also is an opportunity to break through the Jimcrow that pervades football, as it is beginning to be done in baseball.

THE ACTIONS of the University of Virginia students state that they cannot convince themselves whether they are superior to Harvard's Chester Pierce in either intelligence or skill until thy have met him on the field of sport and pitted their mettle against him in a fair contest.

The Richmond Afro-American, in commenting editorially on this, calls upon all State colleges to open their doors to Negro students and declares: "It is our fervent hope that our white leaders who control the affairs of this state will take the cue from these youth and open the doors of all our State colleges to all of our youth on the basis of educational qualifications—before the courts force them to do it!"

# Harvard Ace Makes History, Team Bows

## Rebels Flags Wave But Colored Star is Acclaimed by 24,000

By SAM LACY

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va.—Virginia won two victories here Saturday afternoon, two most impressive victories!

The Cavaliers of University of Virginia won over a heavily favored Harvard football team by the one-sided score of 47-0, the first time they have beaten the Crimson since the series began in 1915.

But what most important, in the eyes of this observer, was that Virginia natives, taking a cue from the players triumphed over the racial bitterness that is the South's by tradition.

Although close to 200 of the 24,000 persons who witnessed the game, came equipped with Confederate flags, this marked the only show of resentment against the presence of Chester (Chet) Pierce, 24-year-old junior, in the Harvard lineup.

**Flags Disappear**

Even the Stars and Bars of these flags became less evident as Coach Dick Harlow, true to promise, started Pierce at right tackle and the 213-pound youngster from Glen Cove, Long Island, deported himself as perhaps the outstanding lineman on the field.

The overwhelming margin by which the locals turned back Pierce and his teammates, makes that part of the story subordinate in the minds of Cambridge followers. Doubtless, they would much prefer that the game itself be forgotten.

Pierce, admittedly under severe pressure, since it marked the first time a colored lad had played mixed college ball in the South, performed notably well. He was downfield under punts and tackled with confidence and finality. His blocking was superb despite the fact his mates were unable to travel far against the Cavalier defenses, as witnessed by the tally.

**Tremendous Ovation**

Having opened the game at tackle, Pierce played through the first half and deep into the third period before being withdrawn for a substitute. This, obviously, was a move to give him a much-needed rest as Harlow pressed him back into service after less than six minutes on the bench.

When he was lifted in that third quarter, the spectators rose as one and cheered him to the echo. It was a tremendous ovation and one which Pierce said afterward, "thrilled me beyond description."

Early in the first period, the hard-hitting Crimson lineman charged down under a punt and nailed Joe McCarey, Virginia safety, two steps after the latter had gathered in the oval.

**Turns in Top Play**

Later, in the same period, Pierce was through the line and in position to box in McCarey as the latter received a Harvard kick on his 37, Pierce's teammate, Left End Chuck Flynn, white, making the tackle.

Highlight of the game, perhaps, was Pierce's spilling of both Bruce Bailey and Bill Pennel, Virginia halfbacks, as they attempted to set up interference for George Grimes on a kickoff reception. The play, occurring in the open, caught the fancy of the spectators and they applauded long and loudly for the stellar bit of defensive maneuvering.

The game was unusually clean, there being no more than eleven penalties called, most of these for off-side play.

**Paradoxical Situation**

As a matter of fact, the behavior of the players and the display of sportsmanship on the part of the fans was paradoxical in view of the sporting of Rebel flags and the band's persistent blaring of "Dixie."

Pierce was housed with the team at the Monticello Hotel, ate his meals in the dining room along with his teammates and otherwise was treated as just another player

**Lauded by Opponents**

Bob Kirkland, 208-pound left tackle of the Cavaliers, who hails from Danville, Va., told the AFRO after the game:

"Pierce plays a hard-clean game. I had quite a lot of trouble guessing his moves. He seems a gentleman and I don't feel any worse for playing against him. I had some pleasant experiences opposing colored boys when I was in Army athletics, consequently, I didn't expect anything more than I got. I never dreamed we would beat Harvard like that, though."

Pierce declared: "I guess I was a little nervous at the start. I saw those flags and I heard the band, but I didn't hear anything bad coming from the people in the stands so I felt everything would be all right. I never feared any trouble from the players, though. After all, they voted to play against me, you know."

Asked how he felt when he heard the fans cheering him on his departure from the game, Pierce said: "I was thrilled beyond description. To me, it seemed like a new fight had been won. Everything was swell after that."

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**Coaches Talk**

Virginia Coach Art Guepe said there was never any question among his boys about how they would play Pierce. "When the athletic faculty put it up to the boys and they agreed to play against him, I said we'd meet him the same way we'd meet anybody else. He'd be just another lineman we'd have to get out of the way. When they banged him, they were to bang him. But there was never any need to say that he shouldn't be banged when it was unnecessary."

Harlow said little. "Harvard has a colored boy on the team When the team plays anywhere, it plays at full strength unless injuries prevent that."

# Colored Grid Ace Accepted

## First Of Race In Togs On Historic University Campus

By E. F. CORBETT

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va.—It can happen here. It did h a p p e n here on Saturday. Chester "Chet" Pierce, stellar tackle of Harvard University, became the first Negro member of a collegiate team to participate against a Southern white university football team. Though by pure accident, no better place could have been selected to prove that this silly Southern custom had no foundation from the beginning, for this city is the home of Thomas Jefferson, the father of Democracy,

# WATCHING THE BIG PARADE

by Ralph Matthews

I have just finished an interesting conversation with an alumnus of the University of Virginia, who called to my attention the fact that no untoward incident occurred at Charlottesville when Chester Pierce played with the Harvard gridders last Saturday.

My alumnus friend felt that the Virginia boys deserved a great deal of credit for their behavior and urged me to say a good word.

I assured him that I would but, after prayerful meditation, I don't think I shall.

**Credit for Right?**

After all, just how much credit do people deserve for doing what is noble, right, and just?

Charlottesville and the University of Virginia went into the matter whole-heartedly and are to be commended for it. Pierce had no "special" arrangements which "he would find far superior to those of his teammates," but he was treated from the very beginning as a guest and a member of the Harvard University football team.

**LIVED WITH TEAMSTERS**

He was housed with the majority of his team-mates at the Pugh House, the guest house of the beautiful and luxurious Hotel Monticello, which has the reputation of being one of the finest in the South. He took his meals with his team in the private dining room at the hostelry.

He shared a room with Howard Houston, Wally Flynn who, also, are "starters" of the "Maroons" and Howard Foster, his regular room-mate at Harvard. There just weren't any special arrangements and Pierce was happy about it when he talked with this writer from his bed as he rested before dinner on Friday evening in company with his cronies listed above.

His "roomies" joined in that the accomodations given Pierce were the same as if he were playing in the East or North.

**POPULAR PLAYER, STUDENT**

Pierce is a handsome, likeable fellow. Standing six-feet-four in stockings, he tips the scales at two hundred and twenty-five pounds of muscular frame. His room was perhaps the most popular, for during the forty-five m i n t e interview, about eight of his varsity teammates drifted in to "chew the rag," interesting, yet annoying to a reporter trying to probe into the "dirt" if any.

He is a senior pre-med student at Harvard, and if the law of averages hold out he will be enrolled in the medical school there next year, for one of the fellows added that no football player passing his grades had ever been refused admittance at Harvard from her undergraduate school.

**ATHLETIC BACKGROUND**

"Chet" has had an interesting athletic background. A graduate of the Glenn Cove, Long Island High School, he is in addition, expert at la crosse. Incidentally, the first time that he ever participated in atheletics in the South was when he played la crosse against Navy at Annapolis, Md., two years ago. His brother who played for Cornell played football against the Navy team at Baltimore in 194

Asked about his reactions to the thought of playing against a southern team in the South for the first time, he stated that it hadn't concerned him one iota. It was just another game for Chester Middlebrook Pierce and he was there relaxing and waiting to play the same stellar role for Harvard as before.

It is a sad commentary on our American democracy that people should expect special honor because they fail to make asses of themselves about the race question. Baltimore. md

The assumption is that when they behave like intelligent, human beings, giving their fellow citizens the courtesy they deserve, that this is somehow abnormal. I cannot subscribe to this defeatist theory. Sat. 10-25-47

It is undoubtedly a fine thing that the present generation in attendance at the University of Virginia is sufficiently civilized not to wallow in the mire of intolerance and object to the presence of a colored opponent.

**Repudiation of Heritage**

But I feel that any other conduct would have been a disgrace to themselves, a repudiation of their noble heritage, and a ghoulish slap at the sacred memory of Thomas Jefferson, the greatest of all the Revolutionary heroes, who founded their institution.

If any student of the University of Virginia had been so rash as to indulge his prejudices, he would only have to read some of the thoughts propounded 200 years ago by the man whose vision made their university possible.

It was Jefferson who conceived and wrote the preamble to our Constitution, which reads in part: "... We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; and that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. ..."

**"Equal Justice"**

It was also Jefferson who wrote: "Equal and exact justice to all; peace, commerce and honest friendship with all nations, and entangling alliances with none; the support of State governments in all their rights as the most competent administration in all of our domestic concerns, are the surest bulwarks against anti-republican tendencies."

And it was the voice of Jefferson, raised against slavery at the very birth of the nation which, if heeded, might have altered history and spared us the bloody Civil War. He said:

**Condemned Slavery**

"The abolition of domestic slavery is the greatest object of desire in these colonies, where it was unhappily introduced in their infant state."

He also said:

"The whole commerce between master and slave is a perpetual exercise of the most boisterous passions; the most unremitting despotism on the one part, and degrading submission on the other.

"The man must be a prodigy who can retain his manners and morals undepraved by such circumstances. The hour of emancipation must come; but whether it will be brought on by the generous energies of our own minds or by the bloody scenes of Santo Domingo is a leaf of our history not yet turned over. ..."

How could students of a school founded by such a thinker stoop to prejudice without defaming the name of the founder?

## A PHONY DEVICE

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

While our preoccupation with the strange morals and manners of the Southland may be wearisome to some of our readers, we are sure that everyone is interested in two incidents which occurred last week in Dixie. In the shadow of Confederate monuments in Charlottesville, Virginia, last week, over twenty thousands descendants of the men in gray stood up and cheered the Negro member of Harvard's football team, which, incidentally, was routed by the Cavaliers of the University of Virginia. Not many miles away in Charlotte, North Carolina, another colored football player, a member of a mixed New York semi-pro team, was roundly applauded by white Carolinians. Chicago, Ill. Sat. 10-25-47

The only protest against the colored members of the Northern teams that was reported occurred in Charlottesville where some fans brought Confederate flags. Chester Pierce, the Harvard Negro who played most of the game against the Cavaliers, took no notice of the flags as he turned in a spectacular performance which finally won the plaudits of the Confederate flag bearers. Bill Williams of the New York team played without any incidents whatsoever in Charlotte, N. C.

According to the sports writers this marks the first time that Negroes have participated officially in football contests with white teammates in Dixie. The word officially is used advisedly because a great many unofficial things happen in the South which indicate that the races are not as far apart as the white supremacists would have one believe. Defender. Sat. 10-25-47

It is interesting that one of these contests, the game in Charlotte, took place in a state where just a few days ago the would-be lynchers of Buddy Bush were permitted to go scot free. Colored citizens in Virginia are still being arrested for sitting in the "wrong" sections of common carriers and yet Mr. Pierce of Harvard was given a standing ovation by the fans at Charlottesville. These paradoxes provide us with further evidence of the fact that segregation is just a phony device for the racists which can be turned on and off like an electric switch whenever it suits the purposes of the Southerners. Those who tell us that segregation cannot be destroyed are clearly talking through their hats.

# Kenny and Strode Shine In Drills

Pittsburgh Courier

By J. CULLEN FENTRESS

LOS ANGELES—Fighting for positions on the Los Angeles Rams' football squad, which battled a bruising band of Washington Redskins last night, (Friday) at Memorial Coliseum, the local National Football League entry's Blues defeated the Golds, 35-34, Wednesday night of last week in an intra-squad game on the greensward of Gilmore Stadium.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

The free-scorer featured vicious line play, fancy pitching and catching, and the hard-running of several swift backs. Not the least outstanding Rams were Woody Strode (UCLA), Blue end, and Kenny Washington (UCLA), Gold fullback.

Strode, as usual, was a tower of strength on defense, Gold backs seldom turning his end. He made tackles all over the field, proving himself one of the game's best flankmen. Sat. 9-6-47

Kenny Washington's fans all over the country will be glad to know the former UCLA Bruin great looks his old self, after having been handicapped last season by a bad leg. Wednesday night of last week he put his legs through a stiff test, returning punts up the middle and doing everything expected of a great fullback.

His catch of Quarterback Jim Hardy's (USC) 7-yard pass for a touchdown, the Gold's fifth and last in the waning moments of the game, was the fost spectacular of the evening.

Closely defended in the end zone, he took the bullet-like throw and sprawled to the turf. His momentum caused him to strike the guard separating the greensward from the track of the stadium. Rendered immovable for the better part of three minutes, he received a tremendous hand as he was carried to the dressing room. He had proved to himself and to the fans that he was again the great running and blocking back of "old."

# Strode Gets 'Pink Slip From Rams

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh Courier, Pa.

LOS ANGELES — Following his club's 20 to 7 victory over the Washington Redskins here Friday night of last week in a charity game, Head Coach Bob Snyder of the Los Angeles Rams, wielded the axe, lopping off six players, one of whom was end, Woodrow (Woody) Strode. Sat 9-13-47

The big, statuesque flankman, who is 32, 6 feet 3 inches, weighing 205 pounds, and who is recognized as one of the best all-round ends in football, was released on waiver and may be picked up by any club in the National Football League in need of strength at the position.

The cut of Strode from the Ram roster breaks up the combination of Woody and Kenny Washington. They starred together at UCLA and then with the professional Hollywood Bears. World War II came along and Strode was a standout with the powerful Fourth Air Force eleven. When signed by the Rams, last season they became the first Negroes to play in the NFL in thirteen years. Sat. 9-13-47

Returning a call early last Sunday morning, placed by the writer at his home, Snyder said he felt badly about releasing Strode but he had no alternative. He will still have to cut from among his remaining ends, four of whom are from six to seven years younger than Strode, and may carry only five during the regular season, he continued. Sat 9-13-47

The Rams left here by American Air Lines Sunday for Des Moines where they played the Boston Yanks Wednesday in a charity tilt. They tangle with the Detroit Lions at Indianapolis Saturday and meet the New York Giants at New York next Wednesday. Both of the latter games are for charity also.

Kenny Washington, who scored one of the Ram touchdowns in the convincing win over the Redskins, underwent a minor leg operation last Saturday and is expected to miss the three exhibition encounters.

# Apace With Aces on the Pro Gridiron

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Herewith is a brief resume of the major games on the mixed professional gridirons during the past week end: 11-22-47

## Browns in 'Clincher'

CLEVELAND — Marion Motley scored one touchdown and contributed an afternoon's rushing gain of 119 yards as the Cleveland Browns clinched the All-America Conference Western Division title by defeating the lily-white San Francisco 49ers, 37-14, before 76,504 spectators here Sunday.

Motley broke through to fall on a fumble by Norman Stadlee, 49er fullback, in the end zone for the first Brownie marker in the opening period. 11-22-47

His line plunging the rest of the day was something to behold as he and his mates assured themselves their second consecutive division crown and a chance to meet the Eastern Division winner in the playoff.

Horace Gillom, long-kicking end, and Bill Willis, speedy tackle, also contributed to the winning cause.

## Yanks, Young Win

NEW YORK — A 58-yard pass from Spec Sanders, white, to Buddy Young gave the New York Yankees their "insurance" touchdown as the Gothamites topped the Los Angeles Dons, 16-13, before 37,625 paying customers here Sunday.

A blocked punt gave the Yankees their game-clinching chance in the third quarter. After two plays, Sanders faded back and tossed 33 yards to Young on the L.A. 25. The former Illini speedster danced his way past two would-be tackles, then outran the oncoming defenders to the end zone as the crowd let loose with a roar.

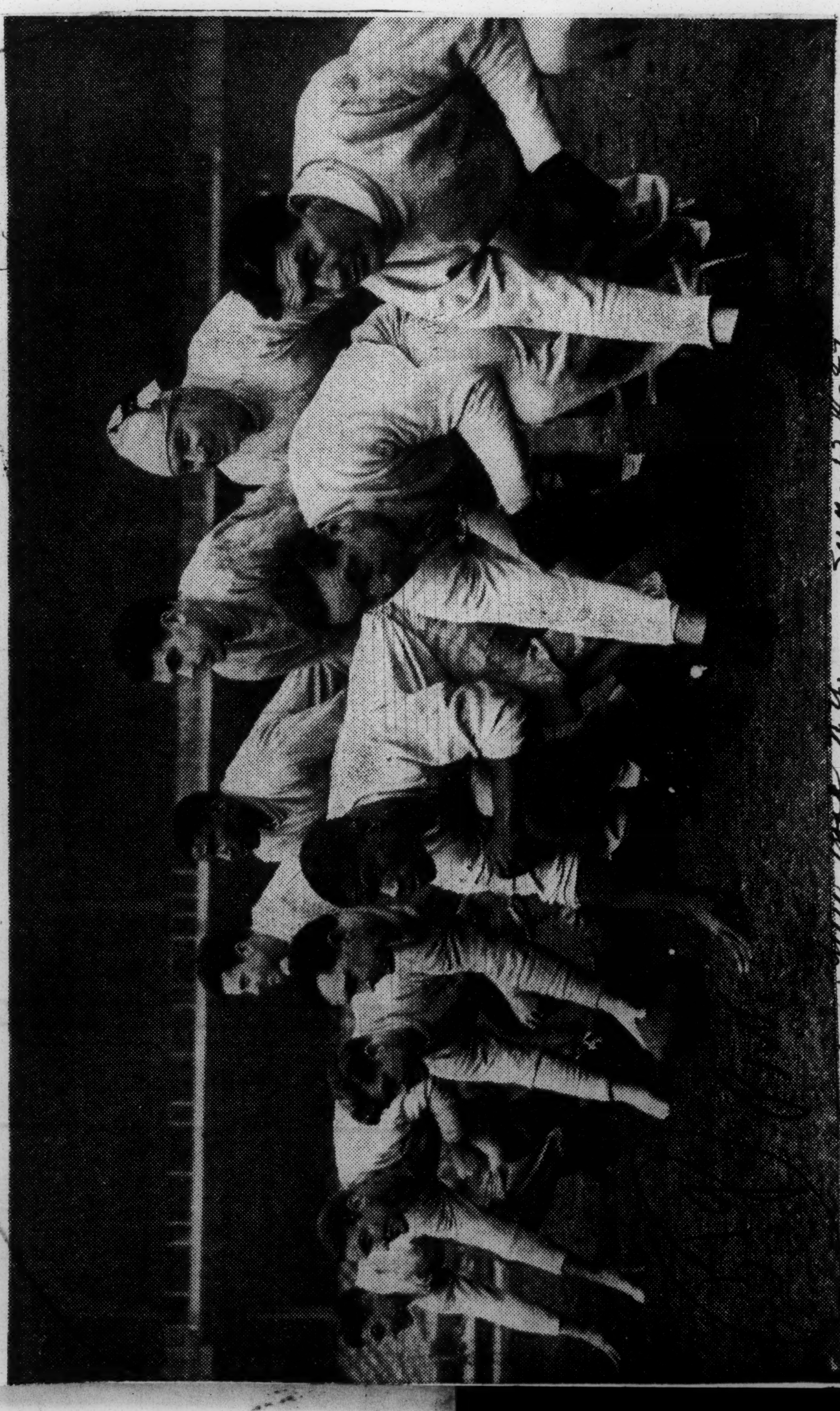
Bert Piggott, Johnny Brown and Ezz Anderson performed in the Los Angeles lineup, all serving as reserves.

## Harris Plays

BROOKLYN —Although he was unable to break away for any worthwhile yardage, Elmore Harris, former Morgan State College star, saw considerable action as the Brooklyn Dodgers walloped the lily-white Baltimore Colts, 21-14, here at Ebbets Field Sunday.

Playing fullback on Baltimore kickoffs, Harris received but once. On that occasion, he returned the ball 31 yards to the 40 before he was downed. On three other occasions, he lugged the ball as the Dodgers were able to make gains of four, seven and seven yards.

# To Play Here for the All-America Football Conference Title Today



Cleveland Browns working out at the Stadium yesterday. Linemen are (left to right) Dante Lavelli, Lou Rymkus, Ed Ulinski, Mike Scarry, Bill Willis, Lou Groza and Mac Speedie. Backs are (left to right) Mickey Mayne, Marion Motley, Otto Graham and Edgar Jones.

New York N.Y. Sun. 12-14-47

# 6th Negro Gridder Crashes Pro Ranks

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Tues. 4-15-47

## LA Dons Sign Center John Brown

**Special to the Daily Worker**

LOS ANGELES.—And the walls come tumbling down! The Los Angeles Dons of the all America Professional Football Conference have today announced the signing of John Brown, Negro center from North Carolina College.

The Dons thus became the third club in major league pro football to dump jimcrow into the ashcan. The Cleveland Browns of the same conference have three Negor stars and the Los Angeles Rams of the National Pro League have two.

Brown, a 260-pound 6 foot 4 inch Goliath, was an All Colored Intercollegiate **Athletic** Association (CIAA) center for two years prior to entering the service in 1942.

He played in the famous 1945 New Year's Day Spaghetti Bowl service game in Italy and upon discharge re-entered North Carolina last year when he again won all CIAA honors and was mentioned on some nation-wide All-America teams.

Brown is 25 years old and hails from Gary, Ind., where he first gained fame as a high school star.

**A spokesman of the Dons told the Daily Worker today, "We have a number of other Negro players lined up and ready to sign. We are organizing our scouting system to thoroughly cover the Negro colleges and we will hire the best players we can get regardless of race, creed or color."** Tues.

Brown, a slashing offensive center, who is also considered to be a fine diagonser of plays while on the defense, will join the Dons in July when they open their training camp at Riverdale. 4-15-47

## Grid Dodgers Sign Negro Halfback, End

The Courier-Journal

New York, April 17 (U.P.)—The Brooklyn Dodgers of the All-America Football Conference, taking a cue from their baseball counterparts, today signed two Negro players for the 1947 season track star Elmore Harris and Sam Gamble, an end. Louisville, Ky.

Signing of Harris, the nation's foremost middle distance runner, was considered a blow to the U. S. Olympic hopes in 1948. The speedy New York Negro won 55 races in 60 starts during the past three years and beat Herb McKenley of Illinois 21 out of 23 times. Unbet aenat the 600-yard distance in 1946. Harris was regarded as a potential Olympic victor. Fri. 4-18-47

Harris played high school football at Normal, Ala., and later was a star halfback at Morgan College in Baltimore in 1943 and 1944. Gamble, who comes from Worth, W. Va., played for West Virginia State College. 4-18-47

# Elmore Harris Passes Up Olympics To Sign With the Football Dodgers

The Times Fri. 4-18-47

### Track Star One of Two Negroes to Accept Brooklyn Contracts as Gamble, End, Also Is Added to Pro Roster

New York, N.Y.

In the hope of taking some of the weight off Glenn Dobbs' shoulders next fall, the Brooklyn Football Dodgers yesterday announced signing of Elmore T. Harris, known to track and field followers for his feats on the Madison Square Garden boards and elsewhere during the past few seasons. Harris, current holder of the National Amateur Athletic Union 440-yard championship, signed at the Dodgers' offices in Brooklyn, thereby eliminating himself as a candidate for next year's Olympic track team on which he was the No. 1 choice for the 400-meter run.

Although his reputation is based chiefly on his ability as a runner, Harris is no novice at the gridiron sport. In addition to starring on his high school team at Normal, Ala., he was named on the Negro All-America team during the two years he played for Morgan College, Baltimore. He scored thirty-seven touchdowns at Morgan.

Cliff Battles, Dodger coach, was pleased at getting Harris.

Harris, who is 24, stands 5 feet 11 inches and weighs 175 pounds.

Another Negro star signed along with Harris was Samuel Andrew Gamble, 6-foot-4-inch end weighing 207 pounds who starred at West Virginia State College, where he was named on last year's Negro All-America.

Signing of Harris and Gamble raised to nine the number of Negro players in big-league pro football. The others are Marion Motley, Bill Willis and Horace Gillon of the Cleveland Browns, Bernie Jefferson of the Chicago Rockets and Dave Brown of the Los Angeles Dons, all in the All-America Conference, as well as Woodrow Wilson Strode and Kenny Washington of the Los Angeles Rams in the National League. 4-18-47

Other newcomers on the Dodgers' roster are Bob Callahan, 6-foot-205-pound Michigan center; Edwin A. (Mike) Harris, 210-pound guard from Mississippi State; Bill Jones, 220-pound guard from West Virginia Weslayan, and Lee Tevis, 190-pound back from Washington University, St. Louis.

# Dons Sign 2nd Negro Star, Promise More

Daily Worker Tues 4-22-47 New York, N.Y.

### Givens 10th in Pro League

*(Nat Low, former Daily Worker writer now living out in the land of sunshine for his health, comes in with this story from Los Angeles.)*

**By Nat Low**

LOS ANGELES, April 21.—The Los Angeles Dons of the All America Football Conference today signed their second Negro gridder in two weeks when quarterback Oscar Givens of Morgan State College affixed his signature to a contract.

Last week the Dons became the third team in major league pro football to dump Jimcrow overboard by grabbing Negro center John Brown of North Carolina College. (**The Brooklyn Dodgers subsequently signed two Negro players and the Chicago Rockets one**).

A spokesman for the Dons told the Daily Worker today that "we have even more Negro players ready to join the clubs. Announcements of their signing will be forthcoming shortly." Daily Worker

Givens becomes the tenth Negro in pro football and can well turn out to be the most famous. Don coach Dudley DeGroot has a ream of enthusiastic reports on Givens who was named unanimous All-Colored Intercollegiate Athletic Association quarterback in 1941, '42 and '46. Tues 4-22-47

Givens entered the Army at the close of the 1942 season and upon discharge in the spring of 1946 he reentered Morgan State and led his team to an unbeaten season and to the Negro intercollegiate championship. New York, N.Y.

**A 21-year-old, 200-pound husky, Givens worked out of the T formation last season and was acclaimed one of the finest passers in college ranks as well as a masterful signal caller. A tipoff on his ability can be gleaned from the statement of a Don official that Givens will see plenty of action at quarterback. The Dons regular quarterback last year was none other than Angelo Bertelli, the famed former Notre Dame great. Bertelli got off to a slow start last season but caught fire shortly and wowed the circuit thereafter.** Tues 4-22-47

Givens must be plenty good if he is ticketed to share quarterbacking honors with Bertelli.

Givens, who comes from Linden, N. J., was one of the state's greatest all-around athletes. He was an all-state high school choice in football, baseball and basketball two seasons and captained all three squads his senior year. This latter feat is unequalled in New Jersey high school athletic history.

# Dons Sign Clark's All-America End

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier Sat. 6-21-47

LOS ANGELES.—The signing of Talmade Owens of Gary (Ind.), a 6 foot 3-inch end from Clark College, Atlanta, Ga., who made the Negro College All-American selections for three straight seasons, 1943-45 by the Los Angeles Dons, was announced last week by General Manager Harry Thayer. Owens is a 215 pounder and twenty-four years old. Sat. 6-21-47

The Dons open their training camp at Ventura, Calif., on July 20. They will take a maximum of sixty players to camp.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 4-26-47

**ANOTHER FIRST**—Elmore (Pepper) Harris, former Morgan State College star and national middle-distance track champion, center, becomes the first of his race to sign a contract to play with the Brooklyn Dodgers professional football team. At left is Freddie Fitzsimmons, Dodger president, and at the right is Cliff Battles, ex-Redskin great, who is the Dodgers' coach. Harris's salary is reputed to be $10,000 a year.

Sat. 4-26-47

# 4th Star Gets Bid for Practice Trial

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md. Sat 4-26-47

## Elmore Harris, National Track Champ, Among New AAC Candidates

Three more football luminaries this week were signed to contracts to play professional football with clubs in the All-America Conference during the 1947 season.

They are Elmore (Pepper) Harris, national outdoor 400-meter champion and three-time winner of the indoor 600-meter crown; Oscar (Slingshot) Givens, spectacular Morgan State College passer, and Sam Gamble, pass-snatching end of the 1945-46 West Virginia State College elevens.

Still a fourth star, Charles (Bruiser) Price, ex-Virginia State College fullback, was the recipient of an invitation to join an AAC eleven for practice beginning in August.

The signatures of Harris and Gamble were affixed to contracts of the Brooklyn Dodgers. Givens was signed by the Los Angeles Dons, which team also extended the bid to Price to report to early fall drills on a trial basis.

**Came as Shock**

Announcement of the signing of Harris came as a distinct shock to the sports world, as it had been generally assumed the Bronx tailor would continue his track activities until the 1948 Olympics. As national champion at the middle distances, both outdoors and indoors, Harris loomed as a virtual certainty to cop any crown he sought at the AAU meet in Lincoln, Neb., and to go on from there to the London Olympics.

Harris, son of an Alabama State College professor, was a gridiron star before he became a standout on the cinders. He was one of the key men of the 1943 Morgan State College mythical national champions and was rated by his former coach, Eddie Hurt, "one of the toughest men to bring down I've ever seen."

**Lauded by Battles**

Coach Ray Battles, white, star of the Washington Redskins' championship era, calls Harris "potentially another Buddy Young who may break up a ball game in one play." Sat. 4-26-47

The former Morgan star has conducted a tailor shop in the Bronx since his withdrawal from school in 1944. He has confined his activities to track the past two years.

Gamble, though looked upon as a mediocre defensive man in CIAA circles, has few equals as a pass-receiver. The 22-year-old Yellowjacket wingman weighs 200 pounds and stands 6 feet, 2 inches. He has large hands, strong legs and 's a master at outwitting the secondary.

In Givens, the Dons are getting a 24-year-old ex-GI, who is regarded in many quarters the most capable passer the CIAA has seen in all its history.

**Completed 44 Passes**

Quarterbacking the undefeated, untied Morgan College Bears last season, the 198-pound, six footer threw 88 passes during the campaign, completing 44 of them for a net gain of 653 yards. He amazed opposing coaches by his uncanny knack of handling a wet or dry ball with equal facility.

Price, who ramrodded the Trojans to the 1945 CIAA championship, does not as yet hold a contract. He accepted the invitation to work out with the Dons, however, because he feels he has a 50-50 chance of hanging on with the team. The Alexandria, Va., youngster is 22 years old, stands 6 feet, 1 inch and weigs 217 pounds when playing.

The signing of the three players this week brings to a total of ten, the number who will see action in the two professional leagues this fall.

**Seven Already In**

Already in the play-for-pay ranks are Kenny Washington and Woody Strode, who were members of the Los Angeles Rams of the National Football League, last year, and Marion Motley and Bill Willis, of the 1946 Cleveland Browns.

The Browns took on Horace Gillom, brilliant end of the University of Nevada eleven, immediately at the end of the 1946 Wolfpack schedule. Sat. 4-26-47

Earlier the Chicago Rockets signed Bernie Jefferson, ex-Northwestern backfield ace.

Last week, the Dons announced the signing of John Brown, North Carolina State College center, to a 1947 contract.

Harris, Gamble, Givens and Brown were all named to AFRO All-CIAA teams during their college careers.

# Axe Hits Moody And Two Other Yankee Stars

Atlanta Daily World, Ga.
Fri. 8-22-47

NEW YORK CITY — (SNS) — According to a release in Wednesday's New York Herald Tribune, Ray Flaherty, coach of the New York Yankees of the All American Football Conference, cut a trio of players from the squad following the team's 29-7 victory the Buffalo Bills, before 11,000 at Ruppert Stadium, Newark, N. J.

The players said to have been released were John Perko, former Notre Dame guard, who played with Buffalo last year; John "Big Train" Moody, former Morris Brown College fullback; and John Quinn, who played for St. Bonaventure in College. Fri. 8-22-47

Coach Flaherty was quoted as saying that the Yankees would continue drills at Cheshire, Conn., until the first league game on August 31. He previously announced that several other players will be trimmed from the sqad before the opener.

# SPORTS

**In this corner** — A Big Night At The Stadium

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

By Bill Mardo

Tues. 7-22-47

ON A RAINY night last October, the Cleveland Browns came into town for a tilt with Dan Topping's Yankees. A plunging fullback named Motley and a rangy guard named Willis were on the Cleveland lineup. The first Negroes to crack jimcrow in the new pro grid loop. Other clubs have since followed suit. Now what used to be, is just a best forgotten memory. When you go up to the Stadium for football this autumn, our own Yanks will have Buddy Young and Archie Harris cavorting on the turf. Over at Ebbets Field the Dodgers will show Elmore Harris and Sam Gamble. The wheels do move. Tues. 7-22-47

**But you always remember the "first time." And if you want to sit in on such, c'mon out to the Stadium tonight. This time it's baseball. The Yanks are home to open against the invading St. Louis Browns. At second base will be Henry Thompson and you'll find Willard Brown in right field. They're the two Negro stars signed by owner Muckerman "to help lift the Browns out of the cellar." Two weeks ago it was Doby for the Cleveland Indians, now it's Thompson, Brown and perhaps Piper Davis. Tomorrow there'll be others.**

# 4th Defender All-American Lands In Big Time Football

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Ill. Sat. 4-26-47

BROOKLYN — The Brooklyn Dodgers football team of the All-America conference signed Sam Gamble, 6-foot, 4-inch, 207-pound end from West Virginia State college and picked by Fay Young on the 1946 Chicago Defender's All-American grid team, and Elmore Harris, former Morgan State football ace and holder of two National AAU track records.

Gamble becomes the fourth Chicago Defender All-American selection to land in big time football. The other three are William Bass, backfield ace of the Tennessee State College Midwest conference champions and Defender All-American in 1944 and 1945, signed to play with Baltimore this fall; big John Brown, the towering 230-pound Gary, Ind., player who starred at North Carolina College for Negroes in Durham, N. C., last fall and also a Fay Young selection, who was signed by the Los Angeles Dons, and Oscar Givens, Morgan State, also signed by the Dons.

• • •

**GAMBLE SERVED** three years in the army with the combat engineers. Harris holds the National AAU outdoor 400-meter championship and the 600-yards National AAU indoor title. He defeated Herb McKenley, world recordholder, in the 400-meters in San Antonio last fall for the national crown and whipped McKenley again in the recent Chicago Relays' Hill 600. He was a sure thing for the 1948 U. S. Olympic team. In signing, he is lost to the American track squad and passes up scholarship offers at the University of Illinois, Ohio State and Boston university.

Harris is at present a tailor in New York City.

Sat. 4-26-47

**GIVENS, AN EX-GI, WAS** perhaps the most important single factor in the undefeated and untied fortunes of the 1946 Morgan Bears. He played a prominent part in almost every other score made by his team. He either threw the touchdown passes or entered the game to pass the team to a scoring position. The Defender's choice on its first 1946 All-American threw a total of 88 passes, completing 44 for a net gain of 653 yards.

Six feet, 2 inches in height and weighing 197 pounds, Oscar Cornelius Givens was born on July 5, 1923, at Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Oscar, or "Gibby" as he is known to intimate friends, began his football career at Linden, N. J., high school where for three successive years he won varsity letters in football, basketball and baseball.

Inducted into the army on March 2, 1943, Gibby received basic training as a member of an infantry unit at Camp Wolters, Texas, serving later in the ETO with a QM Trucking unit. Sgt. Givens was honorably discharged on Nov. 13, 1945.

Sat. 4-26-47

Brooklyn's move bring the total number of Negroes signed by the All-America teams to seven. They are Gamble and Harris on Brooklyn, Marion Motley, William Willis and Horace Gillom on the Cleveland Browns, Bernie Jefferson on the Cleveland Rockets, and John Brown and Oscar Givens on the Los Angeles Dons.

The National Pro league has Kenny Washington and Woody Strode, two former UCLA aces, signed again this year on the Los Angeles Rams. Both played last season.

# No 'Strained Relations' On L.A. Pro Grid Team

Daily Worker – New York
Sat. 8-23-47

*(Here is another dispatch from the Coast by Nat Low, former sports writer of the Daily Worker.)*

**By Nat Low**

LOYOLA, California.—Woody Strode's six feet three inches of bone and muscle were stretched out languidly on his bed in room 15 here on this little campus which is being used as a training camp by the LA Rams of the National Pro Football League.

"Jimcrow? Tension? Trouble? Hell, no, it doesn't exist here among the men and never did," he said. "The only time you ever have to have any racial trouble is when somebody in command sets it off—but it never begins with the men. Look around and see for yourself."

I had already done so and had found only the most natural, unassumed and unselfconscious relations between Strode and Kenny Washington, the two Negro members of the squad, and the rest of the Rams. Lined up waiting for the dining room to open for lunch, I found Kenny exchanging kibitzes and small talk with Bob Waterfield, Jim Benton, Steve Pritko, Dante Magnani and Tom Harmon.

And when the mess hall finally did open and the gang of hungry gridders piled in, Kenny, Waterfield, Benton, Jack Banta and Howard Hickey sat down at the nearest table while Strode sat at another table with Les Horzath, Eberle Schultz, Mel Bleeker, Gerry Cowhig and Ben Hightower. The normal small talk continued with the same effortless ease.

Sat. 8-23-47

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**STRODE SAT UP** on his bed to tell me of a little incident in a game with the Green Bay Packers. Woody had knifed through some Packer blockers on one play to dump the ball carrier for a loss when one of the Packers muttered, "Ya nigger."

**Now in the heat of many a football tussle Strode has heard that vile epithet hurled at him more than once, but he has also seen the reactions they have engendered in his teammates. So he wasn't exactly surprised when Clyde Johnson, the 6 foot 6 inch, 270-pound Ram tackle from Kentucky turned to him and said, "Never mind, Woody, I'll get him for that." And get him he did—on the very next play!**

Just as Strode was finishing his story a solidly-built, dark-eyed fellow came into the room, flopped wearily on the other bed and said, "Woody, I'm tied up in knots and can't move a muscle. What should I do?" He was Tony Dante, an end from the University of Pittsburgh. Strode, smiling understandingly, gave him the much-needed advice, whereupon Dante leaned back and joined in the discussion.

Nothing spectacular about this simple little business of one athlete asking another for a bit of advice; nothing, except that in certain parts of this enlightened country of ours white men lynch Negroes and don't ask them for advice of any kind.

* * *

**A FEW MOMENTS LATER, Kenny Washington came into the room followed by huge Joe Stydahar, the famed former Chicago Bear all-time tackle who is now the Rams' line coach. Kenny looked around, asked Woody where the cards were and then, after apologizing for not being able to stay, "Joe and I have a gin rummy date," he and Stydahar left for the former's room.**

Sat. 8-23-47

Simple and sweet.

The Rams are going to have a better team this year if for no other reason than that Adams Walsh is no longer around. It is no secret that Walsh was bitterly anti-Negro, that he had no use for Strode and Washington and did not play them as much as their talents called for.

**Walsh started out hating Kenny and Woody and wound up being disliked in turn by the entire squad. Towards the end of the season the club was up in arms against Walsh and the revolt was led by some of the biggest names in pro football. To save face, Walsh was allowed to resign even though he had two years to run on his contract.**

Bob Snyder, the former Notre Dame ace, who replaced Walsh as head coach of the team, has won the respect and admiration of the players not only by his immense knowledge of football (he was the brains behind Walsh's championship year in 1945) but also because he believes in and practices democracy.

And if Washington and Strode do not get to see more action this season than last, you can be sure it will be only because they are not good enough to move the other guys into the background. Nothing more, nothing less—and which is exactly as it should be.

## Chicago Rockets Sign Another Negro Player

CHICAGO—James Shephard, halfback from Texas college, is the newest sepia addition to the Chicago Rockets pro football roster. The Rockets open their training season this week in Two Rivers, Wis., under Coach James Crowley and three assistants. Included in the group are outstanding white players from various Southern institutions. Pittsburgh Courier

# Grid Yanks Have Speed to Burn With Buddy Young, Archie Harris

Sat. 8-16-47
Pittsburgh Courier, Pittsburgh Pa.

NEW YORK—The performance of Claude (Buddy) Young furnished the principal excuse for story writing at Cheshire, Conn., as the New York Yankees started preparation for the opening game of the season the night of Aug. 18 in Ruppert Stadium, Newark, against the rival Buffalo Bills of the All-America Conference.

Last year the Yankees won the Eastern Division title, but they were defeated by Cleveland in the play-off. This year the Yankees are shooting for the league crown, the world's championship.

**TITLE HOPES HIGH**

Hopes are high and the reason is Buddy Young. The addition of this fleet Negro half-back from Illinois, who won Western Conference and Rose Bown fame last season, gives the Yankees the fastest quartet of backs in football history. "Spec" Sanders was the fastest back in the league last year. Eddie Prokop can run. No one will question the fact that Frank Sinkwich, former all-America from Georgia, can turn it on. And Young—well, he is the fastest thing in football shoes. The Yankees will continue to make that claim until a match race proves otherwise.

Three other Negro stars are working out at Chesire Academy fighting for places on the Yankee varsity. They are Archie Harris of Indiana, end; Jack Kelley of Fresno State, halfback and John Moody of Morris Brown, fullback.

**HOLDS RECORDS**

As a track star, holder of national AAU and intercollegiate titles, Young has been clocked in :10.5 for 100 meters; :09.7 at 100 yards; :05.2 at 60 yards and :21.2 at 220 yards. In full football pack he defeated the baseball Yankees' George Stirnweiss two yards in a 60-yard special. In the football camp he had Sinkwich, Sanders and Prokop running with their tongues out trying to catch him.

Buddy tied Red Grange's record of 13 touchdowns in a single season at Illinois in 1944 when he was a freshman. His scoring sprints included 92 yards against Great Lakes and 74 yards against Notre Dame. As a member of Navy's great Fleet City team in 1945 he scored 15 touchdowns, the longest run being 94 yards against El Toro Marines.

Sat 8-16-47

Young spark-plugged Illinois to the Big Ten championships last year and a brilliant 45-13 win over UCLA in the Rose Bowl.

**AN EX-PILOT**

Archie gave up basketball at Indiana, but starred anew in track and football. He was All-Big Ten for two years and won the national AAU, national intercollegiate, central collegiate, Big Ten and Indiana State championships in the shot put and discus. He also received the Balfour Award for bringing honor and distinction to Indiana university in athletics. In the armed forces Haris piloted a Mitchell B-25.

Sat 8-16-47

Severe burns received as a 15-year-old boy made Kelley a great athlete. Skillful work by a surgeon, consisting of extensive skin grafting, saved him, but to strengthen weakened tendons, Kelley was advised to go through a rigorous running program. As a result he was Fresno State's second best scorer and leading ground gainer in 1942—a team which finished third in the nation in scoring. He was in the Army and did not play football in 1943 and 1944, but returned to Fresno State for the 1945 and 1946 seasons.

**MOODY A POWERHOUSE**

Moody is a 230-pound giant who has played football from coast to coast and in Europe and Canada. He joined the Army after four years at Morris Brown and played in California and in Europe. After the war he played rugby with the Montreal Alouettes. He is a prodigious kicker, having been credited with one Morris Brown boot from behind his goal line which sent the ball rolling out of bounds on the enemy's 1-yard stripe. Another quick kick against University of Detroit measured 81 yards.

# Young, Gillom On All Star 11

Chicago Defender
Chicago Illinois

## Rockets Cannot Spare Bill Bass

Sat. 8-9-47

Claude "Buddy" Young, last year's sensation on the University of Illinois' Big Nine championship fotball team and hero of the 1947 game in the Rose Bowl when the Illini staged an upsurge to defeat the University of California at Los Angeles, has accepted an invitation to play in the annual Chicago All-Stars versus the pro league champions, the Chicago Bears, at Soldier Field on Friday night, Aug. 22.

"Buddy" Young

Also playing on the College All-Stars will be Horace Gillom, the University of Nevada end who formerly played with New York University.

Sat. 8-9-47

**WILLIAM BASS**, who spent two years with the Kentucky State eleven under Coach Henry Arthur Kean, and who moved to Tennessee State for two more after being released from the Army, and last year at the University of Nevada, will not be able to play, according to the sports department of the Chicago Tribune on Thursday. He was invited, but Coach Crowley of the Chicago Rockets notified the Tribune, sponsor of the game, that he needed Bass, who ran 60 yards for a touchdown in a practice tilt at Three Rivers, Wis.

Young left last weekend for a trip to Detroit and Idlewild, Mich., and is due to join the New York Yankees Saturday. The Yanks will release him to join the Chicago All-Stars on Aug. 7.

Gillom, signed to play with Coach Paul Brown's Cleveland Browns of the All-America Conference, will report to the All-Star coaches as soon as the date for the first practice is set.

Gillom is known for his ability to snare passes, and his speed; also for his long punts.

* * *

**YOUNG NEEDS NO** introduction to the Chicago fans or the fans of the nation, as a matter of fact. He starred at the Wendell Phillips High School and sparked that team to a city public high school championship, was picked on all of the all-city teams at halfback and entered Illinois, where he spent one year before entering the Navy, where on his second year he was halfback on the Fleet City Bluejackets eleven in California. Five of his Fleet City mates are now with the New York Yankees squad.

Sat. 8-9-47

Buddy returned to Illinois in 1946. A Big Nine championship and the Rose Bowl victory followed, then Buddy decided the time was ripe to step out and make some money to insure himself and family of a future. Although the National League claimed him, so did the All-America. The Yankees drew him, and Larry McPhail lost no time in signing him.

The Chicago Rockets wanted Young and offered large sums, but McFail said he would (?) trade Young but the Rockets would have to give up their entire squad and some trade, which meant there wouldn't be any trade.

With Trippi of Georgia, Blachard and Davis of the Army on the College All-Stars, the tickets were gobbled up hurriedly. A capacity crowd of 103,000, not counting the band of more than 200 pieces, will see the contest.

# NFL Can't Laugh Off All-America

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

By AL WHITE

NEW YORK—(ANP)—The National Football League, reactionary group of professional footballers, has refused to meet the All-America Conference champions in a game to decide the world championship. Sat. 9-6-47

Hiding behind such ancient cliches as "against our constitution" to play post-season games, Bert Bell, president of the NFL is not displaying the courage a leader is supposed to possess.

Earlier NFL leaders tried to laugh off the AAC, making some chaffy remarks about "getting a football first." Well, the AAC came through with a fine season over a million and a half paying customers seeing the scheduled games.

Now the NFL is on the spot—it has got to produce— and from the way Buddy Young ran wild through the big Bears in the annual all-star game, the NFL has got to come up with some magic to offset this AAC drawing card. And Young is not alone in the AAC—several teams have signed up colored stars who can tote the pigskin. NFL officials are merely hindering their own cause by delaying action on the inevitable. The fans want it—just as they demanded and got the baseball World Series. Sat. 9-6-47

# Many Pro Gridders Serve Only As 'Box-Office Bait'

Journal & Guide, Norfolk, Va.

By ALVIN E. WHITE

NEW YORK — (ANP) — With the All American Football conference season well under way, it is time to take stock of Negro players. Sat. 9-27-47

What looked like a fair chance and opportunity for Negro football players now, with the exception of Cleveland where Paul Brown wants a winner and winning players, has resolved itself into token employment of stellar Negroes — box office, no more, no less.

The New York Yankees "tried out"—the term is used advisedly —four Negroes, retaining one and letting go one of the best ends extant, and athlete who loves to play and wants to play and, best of all, can play. This reference is to Archie Harris, former All-American end from Indiana who saw service with the Jersey City Giants last year and was denied an opportunity to play with the Giant parent team because of his color.

**HARRIS ACTUALLY SIGNED** 9-27-47

Harris was actually signed to a Yankee contract, after considering offers from Chicago and Brooklyn, both of which desperately need ends, as do the Yanks in spite of their left-overs from last year.

But in the great elimination of players, first Moody was let out —we understand because of objections to training routine etc.— then an end from Fresno State on whom great hopes had been pinned; and finally Archie Harris without so much as a thorough trial to see what he could do.

Mr. Flaherty, coach of the Yankees, is said to have told newsmen that perhaps only one Negro would be retained. Buddy Young —box office. Ability and football savvy didn't count. Now, if Young remains in the Yankee lineup— which he will—let's see how many touchdowns he will score. Heretofore, he has been used only on decoy plays and for running back kick-offs and punts. He is not to be used on touchdown plays, it is understood.

# Apace With Aces on the Pro Gridiron

Herewith is a brief resume of activity in major games on the professional gridirons during the past week end.

Afro-American

## Browns Roll On

The Cleveland Browns moved along well in front of the pack in the race for the Eastern Division lead of the All-America Football Conference here Sunday when they trounced the all-white Buffalo Bills, 28-7, before a record-breaking crowd at Bison Stadium.

A mob of 43,167, largest in football history here, watched as the Ohioans, sparked by the running of Marion Motley, Horace Gillom's kicking, and the superb passing of Otto Graham, white, ran up their eighth conference win in nine starts.

Although Motley checked in with a net gain of 117 yards on the ground, he failed to get into the scoring column. His lone touchdown, negotiated on a 12-yard pass from Graham, was nullified by an off-side penalty. This was the climax of a 78-yard Browns' drive in the second period.

The afternoon's performance enabled Motley to hold onto fourth place in individual rushing, with an average of 5.99 yards per try for the season.

Gillom's booming punts shot him into the lead among the league's kickers with an average of 44.8 yards per try for 30 kicks this season. 11-8-47

## Buddy Gets Off

NEW YORK—A 53-yard touchdown run by Buddy Young was the highlight of a game of highlights here Sunday as the New York Yankees humbled the all-white Baltimore Colts, 35-21, before 21,714 fans at Yankee Stadium.

Spec Sanders and Bruce Alford turned in sparkling performances to set the victory pace, but it fell to the lot of the Chicago Comet, hero of the 1946 Rose Bowl game, to grab the limelight.

The fourth quarter had barely gotten under way when Young pulled in one of George Vardian's screaming punts on his 47, dodged and back-tracked to his own 40, slipped to all fours, picked himself up and lit out for the left sideline.

Shaking off two would-be tacklers en route, Young raced to pay dirt with the speed of a gazelle to leave the Colts bewildered and helpless.

Baltimore, Md.

## Piggott Tallies

LOS ANGELES—Bert Piggott contributed a second period touchdown to the cause of the Los Angeles Dons, but it was of no avail as the San Francisco 49ers, with their lily-white combination, emerged on the front end of a 26-16 decision here Sunday in All-America Conference competition.

The former University of Illinois halfback hit pay dirt after receiving a five-yard pass from Charley O'Rourke. Johnny Brown and Ezz Anderson, at center and end, respectively, played great defensive ball to help bottle up the 49ers' running, but th passing of Frankie Albert, white, took its toll.

Afro-American

## Dodgers Tight

BROOKLYN, N.Y.—The Brooklyn Dodgers slogged to a 7-3 victory over the hapless Chicago Rockets here Friday night in ankle-deep mud.

Elmore Harris, former Morgan State College star, saw some action in the contest, but the condition of the playing field cut down his potentiality as a threat since he relies on speed. Coach Cliff Battles, consequently, used him sparingly.

Bill Bass, ex-Tennessee State College and University of Nevada ace, started in the linup of the Rockets but, like Harris, was hampered by the muddy field.

A crowd of 800 braved the chilly rain to view the proceedings at Ebbets Field.

51g 1947

Professional (Horace Gillom )

# Cleveland Signs 3rd Grid Star

51g Afro-Am.
Baltimore, Md.
Sat 1-11-47

## Gillom, Nevada End, Joins Willis, Motley With Champs

CLEVLAND, Ohio—Coach Paul Brown of the Cleveland Browns announced late last week that he has signed Horace Gillom, 24-year-old Massilon, Ohio, end, to a contract to play the 1947 season with the All-America Conference professional football champions. Sat. 1-11-47

The signing of Gillom gives the Browns another brilliant player who starred in college football. Two others, Marion Motley and Bill Willis, played through the 1946 campaign and contributed much to the winning of the conference title by the local eleven.

Gillom stands 6 feet 2 inches in height and weighs 208 pounds. He was one of the standouts of the University of Nevada team the past year, and figured in the controversy which resulted in the school's cancellation of a Nov. 16 game with Mississippi State because the Southerners were not willing to play against Gillom and a teammate, Bill Bass.

**Crack Punter** Sat. 1-11-47

A brilliant pass-catcher and fine defensive wingman, Gillom is best known for his punting ability. In seven games with the Wolfpack in 1946, Gillom turned in the amazing average of 51.3 yards per kick.

Brown, in announcing the signing of Gillom, declared, "He's the greatest athlete I've ever coached." The Cleveland mentor tutored the player when the latter was attending high school at Massilon.

Gillom was reportedly signed at $3,000 for the season

# Archie Harris to Join Buddy Young

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 6-14-47

51g

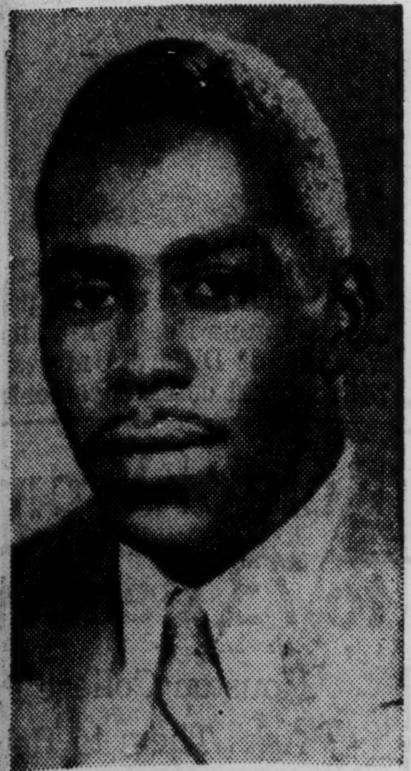
## Ex-Indiana End Latest Player Named to Ranks of AAC Teams

NEW YORK—The New York Yankees professional football team announced Thursday, through President Dan Topping, that Archie Harris, brilliant pre-war end at the University of Indiana, has been signed to a contract for the 1947 All-America Conference season.

Acquisition of Harris brings to 11 the number of former college stars who will appear in the league this fall. In addition to Buddy Young whom Harris joins as teammate on the Yankees, All-America rosters include the following:

Bill Willis, Marion Motley and Horace Gillom, Cleveland Browns; Bill Bass and Bernie Jefferson, Chicago Rockets; Elmore Harris and Sam Gamble, Brooklyn Dodgers; John Brown and Oscar Givens, Los Angeles Dons.

The National League also lists two players: Kenny Washington



ARCHIE HARRIS

and Woody Strode, Los Angeles Rams.

Sat. 6-14-47

**All-Big Ten**

All-Big Ten two years, All-Western two years, honorably mentioned for All-America in his junior year and picked on the nation's second team in his final year, Harris is regarded as one of the country's outstanding ends. He recently concluded a career with the Army Air Forces in which he served as a B-25 Mitchell pilot.

Later, as a physical training officer, he led his base team to the national service men's championship in 1945 (8 victories, 1 defeat). Harris is continuing his education at New York University and hopes to return to the coaching field when his pro football career is concluded.

In addition to starring on the football field at Indiana where he was elected to the university's all-time team, Harris won numerous track and field honors with the discus and shot. At one time he held the world's rocerd for the discus throw. He presently holds the collegiate record.

During his track and field career he won the following titles in either the shot put or discus throw: National AAU, National Collegiate, Central Collegiate, Big Ten, Indiana State, Butler Relays, Drake Relays, Pennsylvania Relays and Los Angeles Relays.

In high school at Ocean City, N.J., Harris played end and fullback on the football team, was regular center for four years on the basketball court and swept through a series of successes in field events, the highlight of the latter being his unofficial world's record of 175 feet, 10 inches in the discus.

Even as a high school competitor he finished seventh in the Olympic Trials at Randall's Island in this specialty.

# Six Sepia Stars Are in Los Angeles Dons' Fold

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

Sat. 6-14-47

LOS ANGELES—The Los Angeles Dons of the All-America Conference have signed six Negro players so far and there are prospects that two more may be taken into camp for trials.

The players are Oscar Givens, quarterback from Morgan State College; Charles Price, fullback, Virginia State; John Brown, center, North Carolina College; Walter Johnson, halfback, Alfred College; Raymond (Pelican) Hill, Southern University; and Willie Peters, Santa Barbara State College.

According to a schedule release made last week by general manager Harry Thayer, the Dons will play fourteen league games, seven at home, and sev n on the road, in addition to two exhibition games.

The Dons open the season Friday night, August 29, against the Chicago Rockets in Chicago's Soldier's Field. Sat. 6-14-47

The first public appearance of the Dons will be Tuesday night, August 12, in an intra-squad srimmage at Ventura, scene of training camp activities.

51g 1947

Professional (Kenny Washington)

## HERMAN HILL . . . Salute to Kenny

LOS ANGELES—Kenny Washington, UCLA immortal and Los Angeles Rams halfback, is highly deserving of a mythical badge of glory award forh is tremendous comeback in the ranks of the play for pay football this season. Courier, Pittsburgh Pa.

Hampered by a trick knee and an unfamiliarity with the T formation, Washington suffered the worst year of his entire career in '46. Sat. 11-15-47

There were planty who claimed he was through and should retire to old rocking chair.

**Undaunted, however Kenny worked hard all spring, conditioning his knee by playing handball at the Police Academy. Early in the summer, he, Bob Waterfield and other Rams practiced together almost daily in an informal manner.**

Kenny played in the UCLA alumni squad game against the judgment of some, turned in a sparkling performance and emerged without injuries. Sat. 11-15-47

**The rest is history. Driving, smashing and bulling his way over, and around tacklers in the tough National pro league, the big 200-pound back has been nothing short of sensatioinal. He scored twice against the Pittsburgh Steelers, once against Green Bay, and again on a scintillating 31-yard run when the Rams beat the Chicago Cardinals in Los Angeles.**

Against the Detroit Lions, he was a standout, and he reached his zenith at Chicago when he raced 93 yards to pay dirt against the Cards a fortnight ago. Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

**His blocking and defensive work have been equally as good and when called on to pass, his rifle throws have connected with regularity.**

Because of his outtsanding ability, old "No. 13" has taken a physical pounding such as only a real athlete could survive. He is presently sidelined for two weeks.

**Proof that Kenny Washington has come back is best shown by the fact that he is the leading ground-gainer in the Western Division of the league with better than an eight-yard average per try!**

## Kenny Washington Steps Off 92 Yards Against Chi Cards

Daily World, Atlanta, Ga.

CHICAGO, Ill.— (NNPA)— A 92 yard touchdown jaunt by Kenny Washington, former UCLA star, was not enough last Sunday to save the Los Angeles Rams from a 17-10 defeat at the hands of the Chicago Cardinals. Sat. 11-7-47

Kenny's run before 40,075 fans came in the first quarter of the game after the Rams recovered a Cardinal fumble on their own 8-yard line. Washington sliced off tackle for the score. 11-7-47

51g 1947 Professional (Claude "Buddy" Young)

**'THEY'RE OLDER AND UNDERSTAND'**

# Happier With Yanks Than With My Illinois Team Mates, Says Buddy

Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 10-25-47

By LILLIAN SCOTT

NEW YORK—(Exclusive)—The nation's fastest football flash, Buddy Young, is happier playing with the professional Yankees than he was on his college team at the University of Illinois. Over a couple of chocolate sodas here last week, the speedy youngster (21 years old) told the Defender:

"The Yankees are nicer than the Illinois team. Most of them have been to college and they're older and understand. It isn't even like baseball where three-fourths of the players are uneducated. They haven't ever discriminated against me." Evidence of this is the fact that in Baltimore recently where Buddy expected ill will, he stayed at the fashionable Lord Baltimore Hotel with the rest of the team. In New York, the team's hometown, he shares a room in a good midtown hotel with two white teammates, Bentz of Tulane U. and Nate Johnson, an Illinois graduate of 1940. 10-25-47

**Hopes To Get Degree**

None of that means, however, that Buddy didn't like playing ball for Illinois. He says now that the "most depressing thing in my life was having to leave there as far as football was concerned, and work for my family." He hopes to return to school some day, but not Illinois as he feels Champaign is too far away from his hometown, Chicago. He wants to attend a physical education college in Chicago, get his degree and later do recreation work.

Born and raised in Chicago, Buddy is one of seven children. He played football at Wendell Phillips high. Then in 1944 he went to Illinois and made the team. He served in the navy and played with mixed teams, and with some of the same fellows with whom he now works on the Yankees. Last January he left college because, "I had to get out and make that milk for the baby." He and his wife Geraldine have one son, two years, Claude Jr. Asked his present salary, he winked and said, "The baby gets his quart a day."

His two younger brothers play baseball and football in high school. One sister is Buddy's twin, while one is older, and two younger. Asked about his mother's reported athletic prowess, he replied, "When she was a girl she used to run a little but never on a team. She always encouraged the kids. My father used to be a half pug boxer, a lightweight." Sat. 10-25-47

**Won All Church Races**

"We came up," Buddy continued with a grin, "in a church where my mother was the organist. The church used to have an annual picnic and there'd be footraces. One year each of us including mother, won. After that the Reverend who knew us very well joked about it and said maybe we'd better not come any more."

His parents are divorced, and his mother and stepfather and the rest of the family run a cleaning establishment in Chicago which bears his name. "Keep the money in the family," he quipped as he explained that his stepfather manages the place, one brother delivers, one is a presser, and his mother and sisters clerk. The financial backing comes mainly from one sister.

His own family lives in Chicago, too, but will join him here for the team's home season in another week. His wife, whom he met in high school, takes a dressmaking course on the side, he said, but amiably added like a true husband she's chiefly occupied "spending my money, that's all."

**"California Vacation"**

After the present season is over, he wants to "loaf" and maybe drive out to California for several weeks. Asked about other committments, he replied quickly and emphatically, "I've been offered a theatre tour but not me. I don't like them. That would worry me—that would eat my heart. It would make me 'shamed," he faltered as if he couldn't really express how much he disliked the idea. "I just like to play football," he went on, "get it over with and leave it at that."

A little quiet at first, after a while he talks easily. Dressed in blue slacks, and a long sleeved pale beige shirt and pullover, he confessed, "I have a desperate weakness for buying shirts and socks—good shirts and socks," he emphasized, "argyles and loud ones. I also have a hobby of collecting odd cuff links—and pipes—too, as I smoke one."

He never misses "Wings Over Jordan" on Sunday mornings although he himself "sings like a crow." He likes all kinds of music and especially bebop. But his passion is movies. "I eat them up. That's how I spend all my time in New York. Sometimes when there's nothing doing I see three shows in a day. I've seen everything downtown now except 'Green Dolphin Street.'"

**Likes Humane Movies**

A "sentimentalist" he likes "humane movies" but doesn't go for "all that love stuff."

As to football he expects no trouble racially from his own or opposing teams. He says the other teams rough him up no more than is customary with star players. "I can't blame them," he adds. "I like the competitive part of football—it demands quick and fast thinking. It shows quality and ability to get along with people."

The biggest thrill in his life was "going in and winning at the Rose Bowl," with Illinois. On the field the only thoughts in his mind are "How good I'd like to be—hope we can win—and glad we won." Usually with Buddy carrying the ball the last is true.

A young fellow who's made gridiron stardom for himself with a pair of fleet feet, Buddy is now not only the college hero but a responsible family man. With his quick smile, he says, "I'm growing up, you know."

## Buddy Young Voted "Most Valuable"

Journal and Guide. Sat. 8-30-47

CHICAGO — Claude Buddy Young was voted Saturday as most valuable player in the All-Star football game played here at Soldiers field Friday night, nosing out Notre Dame's George Ratterman by four votes, the closest poll in the history of the award.

Selection of the diminutive Illinois flash was made by a vote of sports writers covering the fourteenth annual game which saw the collegians upset the Chicago Bears, national Football League Champions, 16-0 before a crowd of 105,840.

Journal and Guide Norfolk, Va.

It was the combination of the fleet Young's brilliant open field transing and Ratterman's great quarterbacking and passing that set up the All-stars' two tallies and broke the backs of the pro champs. Young and Ratterman received the bulk of the votes cast

# Wendell Smith's Sports Beat

Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

## Buddy Young Made Good Decision

**CHICAGO—Little Buddy Young, the fastest thing in cleats, came out here last week and turned in a 95-yard gallop as the New York Yankees bowled over the Chicago Rockets in an All-American Conference game. Once the idol of Illinois, Buddy is now getting paid to strut his stuff for the Yankees. When he first was signed, the pigskin pacifists threw up their hands and showed . . . "Murder! He'll get killed in professional football."** Sat. 11-1-47

**But they were wrong. Buddy's living and running about with the same vim and vigor he exhibited in college. "I don't think this is as rough as college ball," Buddy told us before the game at Soldier Field. "The professional players are just as rough, but they know how to tackle."** Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Young weighs 162 pounds and is still fast as greased lightning. When out on the field with the rest of the players, he looks like the mascot. The others tower over him like giants over midgets. But once Buddy tucks that oval under his arm and starts picking 'em up and laying 'em down, you forget he's small. All you can see is that he's football's "Mr. Speed" and a wonderful halfback to behold.**

**When he quit Illinois and joined the play-for-pay boys, Buddy was criticised by some people. They said he should have stayed at Illinois and received his degree. But Buddy looks at it this way: "Listen," he demanded, "I can still get my education if I want to. Football season is over in December and I can go to school from January through June. I jumped into pro ball because the money was there. After all, what does a guy go to school for? He goes because he thinks he'll be qualified to work at a good job when he graduates. Well, my chances for a good job came before I finished school and I took it. Anything wrong with that?"** Sat. 11-1-47

**No!—a thousand times—No! . . . There's nothing wrong with that, Buddy Young. There are some people who live under the illusion that football players should stay in college and win themselves a lot of glory every Saturday afternoon. But we think any player who can win himself a lot of money, rather than glory, in the pro games on Sunday afternoons, should do so. Buddy Young is being well payed for his efforts with the Yankees. He is making just about twice as much money as Jackie Robinson got for his first year in big league baseball with the Brooklyn Dodgers. The people who were howling for Buddy to turn down that ten or fifteen thousand he's getting in professional football, probably couldn't give him a job paying him $3,000 if he had stayed and graduated from Illinois.**

# Look Out, All-Americas, Buddy Young Is Being Groomed as a Triple-Threat!

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md. 11-22-47

NEW YORK—Don't be surprised if Buddy Young, the Chicago Comet who runs with the speed of a gazelle for the New York football Yankees, blossoms into a triple-threat star within the next couple weeks!

The former Illinois star, currently one of the most feared men in professional football, is being drilled as a potential pass-punter by Coach Ray Flaherty. Should Buddy prove as adept in these departments as he is in the ball-toting business, the Gothamites will be a deadly crew with Young and Spec Sanders, white, operating as three-way men in the same backfield.

Mr. Claude (Buddy) Young made a wise decision, we think!

Flaherty had Young passing in the Yankees' 24-16 win over the San Francisco 49ers two weeks ago. Buddy's pass play was called three times. 11-22-47

The first time he took the ball from Sanders and circled wide to his left. The maneuver sucked in Johnny Strzykalski, the defensive right halfback, but Buddy pulled the trigger too quickly and floated the ball ten yards over the head of the prospective receiver.

The next time, on a similar play, he threw back to the right side to Sanders, the play gaining 12 yards. The 49er linemen tossed him for a loss on the other attempt.

With Buddy's speed representing a terrible threat to the flanks, an optional pass-or-run play in his hands might develop into the Yankees' most dangerous weapon. The defensive halfbacks would be trapped either way.

They would take the chance of Young going the whole distance if they didn't charge to protect against him sweeping the end. By committing themselves too quickly they could become suckers for a delayed pass play to Jack Russell or Bruce Alford, the Yankees' brilliant ends.

**Points to Browns**

Flaherty may have Buddy ready for his triple-threat role in time for the game with the Cleveland Browns at the Yankee Stadium, Sunday.

The Yankees could make things interesting for the Browns, whom they have never beaten, if Buddy started clicking with his left-handed pitches.

Flaherty had high praise for him this week, with particular stress laid on his blocking. "He sneaks up on those 250-pounders before they know he's in the vicinity," Ray said, "and bowls them over like tenpins. 11-22-47

"He's one of the smartest and most adaptable players on the squad," he continued, "and those passes he threw against San Francisco were the first and second he ever tossed in competition.

"I happened to notice him punting before a practice session recently and would you believe it, after ironing out a few technical faults, he was booting 50 and 60 yards within three days."

# Claude "Buddy" Young Quits School To Support Family

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Buddy Young's college days at the University of Illinois are over.

Last week he made the memorable decision to quit school in order to support his youthful bride, Geraldine, and infant son, Claude, Jr.

Faced with the question of whether he should struggle through college to obtain his degree in physical ducation while his wife and baby suffered, Young explained that he had not signed to play professional football but was open to propositions.

"My first obligation is to my family," he said.

**TIED GRANGE'S RECORD**

He accepted the offer to play with the all-star college team with the knowledge that participation in such a game automatically ended his college football career. Buddy's gridiron feat soon began to thrill the nation when he entered the University of Illinois in 1944. He tied the famous Red Grange's record of 13 touchdowns in one season that year, then entered the Navy where he won added laurels as a member of the championship Fleet City Bluejackets on the west coast, where fans remember his recent thrilling performance in the New Year's Rose Bowl game.

Among those who commented about Buddy's decision to quit school to support his wife and baby were Louis Tortorelli, his Wendell Phillips High school coach; Mrs. Maudelle Bousefield, principal of Wendell Phillips, and Ralph Metcalfe, former Marquette university track star.

"What hurts me is that I hate to see Buddy lost to the United States Olympic team," remarked Tortorelli. "As for his leaving school, I am sure he will resume his studies when financially able. As far as pro football is concerned, as modest as he is, when he says he doesn't know if he's ready for pro football, I know he is ready. He showed it as a member of the Fleet City Blue Jackets in 1945. He will sure go some. He is entitled if that kid gets the proper blocking by his mates, to the right to look out after himself and family first."

"While I regret very much that Buddy is unable to continue his studies at Illinois, the rumor that he will join some pro football club leaves me both warm and cold," said Mrs. Bousfield. "I hope, if he is to play pro football, that he will hold out for the money due him as a drawing card and not sell himself too cheaply. I am indeed sorry that his finances were so low that he found it necessary to make the move to leave school at this time. I do hope that after a few years he will be able to resume his studies."

"I regret Buddy is leaving college in his sophomore year to enter the field of professional sports," Metcalfe commented. "I am sure that his college education would mean more to him in years to come. Buddy is a symbol of the Negro in sports. He has held a position of great promise as a leader. I am hoping that his action will not jeopardize that status."

# Buddy Young Quits Illinois

CHICAGO, Jan. 21 — Claude "Buddy" Young, Negro halfback at the University of Illinois, tonight announced his decision to quit school on the plea that he needed to make a living for his wife and 18-month old child.

Young, who scored two touchdowns in Illinois' 45 to 14 triumph over UCLA in the Rose Bowl New Year's Day, had two more years of competition at Illinois.

# Young Loses Amateur Status For One Year

CHICAGO, ILL., (NNPA) — The Central Association of the National Amateur Athletic Association suspended Claude Buddy Young for one year last Tuesday night for violating the rule which prohibits an amateur athlete to solicit employment for gain in return for his athletic services.

Lyle Forter, chairman of the Central A. A. U. Basketball committee, which denied Young permission to play in the Association's basketball tournament now in progress, announced the suspension.

Dan Ferris, executive secretary of the AAU, said last Monday that Young automatically became ineligible for amateur competition when he announced his intentions to play in an all-star football game for which he would have received money. The game, of which champion Joe Louis was a backer, was to have been played at Los Angeles but was cancelled.

According to A. A. U. rules, Young may be reinstated after one year since the game was not played and he was not paid. Ferris said if Buddy waits the required year he will have plenty of time to get into shape for the Olympics in 1948. Young had announced his intentions of entering some Chicago school next fall and preparing for the Olympic games.

Ferris said Young only received expense money for his appearance at Los Angeles.

# BUDDY YOUNG ENDS CAREER AT ILLINOIS

## Quitting College to Support His Family, Football Star Denies He Has Signed Pro Contract

CHICAGO, Jan. 21 (U.P.)—Buddy Young, Illinois star halfback, announced today he was quitting school, but he denied any immediate plans to join a professional football organization.

"I have not been approached by any professional club, either in the All-America Conference or the National League," he said.

Buddy revealed, however, that he would play in the All-Star professional football game sponsored by Heivyweight Champion Joe Louis in Los Angeles Sounday. His participation in this event would cost him his remaining two years of eligibility for intercollegiate sports.

**Forced to Quit School**

Buddy and his wife planned to leave tomorrow night for Los Angeles. The speedy backfield man said he had not told University of Illinois authorities that he was quitting school.

"I have beeen trying to get Coach Ray Eliot on the phone all day," he said. "I don't know whether I'm going to play professional ball, but I have to quit school. It's a financial thing. All I'm interested in is getting regular financial support for my family, and I can't do it on $90 a month."

**Misses Second Examination**

Buddy said he had no idea how the varied rumors that he had signed with the New York Yankees of the All-America League were started.

"A guy called me this weeek and told m that I had signed a contract with the Yankees for $100,000 for three years,'" Young said. "He couldn't tell me any more about it and I haven't signed anything.'"

Young earlier had missed the second of four scheduled final examinations at the University of Illinois. It made him automatically ineligible for further intercollegiate competition, although he could have restored eligibility by submitting "valid" excuses for his absences.

# YOUNG BARRED FOR YEAR

## Star Is Suspended Because He Sought to Play for Money

Clarence (Buddy) Young faces a year of suspension from amateur competition before he can launch his announced campaign to win a place on the 1948 Olympic team as a sprinter.

Clarifying the status of the former Illinois football star in response to a request from the Central A. A. U., Daniel J. Ferris yesterday pointed out that Young automatically became ineligible when he announced his intention to play for money in the canceled all-star football game in Los Angeles.

However, the National A. A. U. secretary-treasurer added that the rule provides that if an athlete abstains from collecting the money, as happened in Young's case, he may be reinstated in one year.

"If Young waits the year, he will nave plenty of time to get in shape for the Olympics," Ferris pointed out. A former national sprint champion and hero of the Illinois Rose Bowl victory, Young dropped out of college on the plea that he had to make a living for his wife and son.

He accepted an invitation to play at Los Angeles but received no more than his expenses from Chicago to the coast when the game was called off. The other day he announced that he planned to enter some Chicago school next fall and would begin preparing for the Olympics.

# Buddy Young Case Stirs Suspicion of Pro Sports

By WHITNEY MARTIN
*Associated Press Sports Writer*

"Buddy" Young is not among those present at Illinois University, and it is hoped that his absence is only temporary, not only for his sake, but for the sake of pro sports in general, particularly pro football.

"Buddy" is reported to have the reason for quitting his studies, for that matter. Often more, in the long run.

Anyway, many students quit school when their money runs out. They just drop quietly by the wayside and nothing is said about it, except a curt "too bad" by those acquainted with the situation.

However, "Buddy" Young is a great athlete, so anything he does is pushed into the spotlight. Because he is a great athlete, with a chance to make money as a pro, the finger of suspicion is, probably unjustly, pointed at the pros.

given his financial circumstances as That's legitimate enough excuse, as

"Buddy" says he has received no contract to play pro football. Whether he has or not makes no difference. The critics of pro sports will claim that the prospect of making a bucketful of dough so bedazzled "Buddy" that he couldn't concentrate on his school work, and had it not been for at least the prospect of being grabbed by a pro team, the stocky speedster would have continued with his education.

It's always thus when a star athlete quits school with a pro offer waiting. The critics take the attitude that the boy went to school to establish a reputation in sports, and, once having done that, and being in a position to draw down a fat salary as a pro, his studies become incidental and sometimes are dropped entirely.

These critics see the athlete using the school as a stepping stone to a career in pro sports. Although we personally see nothing wrong with a career in pro sports, there are those who think that a college is not the place to groom pro athletes; that schools primarily are to improve the mind, not the body. The body can be improved by swinging a sledge on a section gang.

As pointed out, "Buddy's" excuse for leaving is legitimate. When you run short of money, there's not much you can do about it.

It's just the fact that his possible, even probable, eventual affiliation with the pro footballers that makes his leaving untimely. When a youth

in his position quits and rumors of pro contracts dangling before him are heard simultaneously, the surface thinkers immediately will associate his departure with the pro offers.

And that's not good. And it's not fair. It's not fair to "Buddy," and it isn't fair to the pros. "Buddy," if his reason for quitting is accepted as the true reason, would have had to quit, whether there were pro offers waiting or not.

• • •

In his particular case there was no reason why he should drop his studies now, if it was his intention to turn pro. After all, the pro season just ended, and he would gain nothing by quitting now. He could finish his school year in ample time to join the pros for next Fall's campaign.

In the pros' defense, it must be pointed out they have a rule that no college player can be signed until his class has been graduated, unless the commissioner, after studying a particular case, makes a special ruling. We understand both the National League and the All-America Conference have this rule.

But, rule or not, there are those who think they see the pro influence in the departure of a sports star. If "Buddy" should sign a pro contract immediately, they would be sure of it. Mon. 1-27-47

# Yanks Hot For Young

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

Tues 1-23-47

### In the Bidding for Negro Star, Who Quits Illinois

By Lester Rodney

The picture of the sensational Buddy Young romping for the professional football Yankees at the Stadium next fall came closer into focus yesterday. Speaking for the Yankees, Arthur Patterson told the Daily Worker, **"We are very interested in speaking to Young about a contract once we get the official word from the University that he is no longer a student."**

The Yankees will get that word today. As predicted in this paper last week, the great Negro athlete has been forced to quit the University of Illinois in order to adequately support his wife and child. Like other veterans with a family, he has found the $90 a month subsistence inadequate. In quitting school and announcing his intention of capitalizing on his athletic talents immediately, Young said.

**"It's a financial thing. All I'm interested in is getting regular financial support for my family and I can't do it on $90 a month."**

After leaving school, Young immediately left for Los Angeles where he will play Sunday in the professional All-Star game sponsored by Joe Louis. 1-23-47 Tues

Young was a leading figure in the Big 9 Western Conference championship won by Illinois last fall and starred in the surprising route of UCLA in the Rose Bowl game on New Years Day. As a freshman, he tied the immortal Red Grange's touchdown record for one season with 13 trips into paydirt. A champion sprinter in track, Buddy is regarded as the fastest back in the land, faster even than Army's Glenn Davis. Short and stocky, he is an excellent defensive man, a good blocker and a constant breakaway threat as safety man.

The Yankees are members of the All American Conference and finished second last season to the Cleveland Browns. If the Stadium entry is successful in signing Young, he will be the first Negro player on a New York professional football team. The championship Browns have three Negro players and the Los Angeles Rams of the National League two. Tues. 1-23-47

# Yanks Build Plays Around Buddy Young

8-27-47 Wed.

CHESHIRE, Conn., Aug. 26—(AP) Buddy Young was the guinea pig in the New York Yankees' final pre-season scrimmage Tuesday morning, as Coach Ray Flaherty introduced several new plays for the season's opener against the Buffalo Bills Sunday at Buffalo.

It was obvious that Flaherty planned to take advantage of Young's speed via flanker play, reverses and end sweeps while Spec Sanders, Frankie Sinkwick, Eddie Prokop and Bob Kennedy were hitting at the middle.

Flaherty hopes to profit by the experience Frank Leahy enjoyed in the Chicago All-Star game when the Chicago Bears sent two and three men out on the flanks to cover the speedy Illinois Negro Rose Bowl star and thereby left the Bears' defense vulnerable through the middle.

## Buddy Is Spec's Little Helper

Daily Worker, New York

BUDDY YOUNG plays a vital role in the Yanks' single and double wing attack. He is lined up next to Sanders on many plays, and Spec's runs are often preceded by the fake to Buddy, rooting the backer ups respectfully until it is certain that the leather is not reposing under the arm of the whizzing Young. On another sequence of plays Buddy goes way out on the flank where he is a constant threat to receive a quick lateral from Spec and must be well covered. From there, when he doesn't carry, he often swings back in to deliver a surprisingly sharp block for a man of five-five, one hundred fifty pounds playing against the outsized behomoths of pro ball. On practically all of Sanders' long runs Buddy's unusual speed enables him to get out in front of Spec for some clearance work. Interestingly enough as a comment on the fear in which Young is held, though he is far from the all around star Sanders is, all 'Frisco kickoffs and all of Alberts' punts were veered carefully away from Young and over to Spec whenever the two were back together.

Tues. 11-11-47

# Buddy Young's Case

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

CHICAGO—Suspended for one year by the Amateur Athletic Union last week, Buddy Young, former University of Illinois football and track star, indicated that he would seek entrance into a school near here next fall, "to keep from going stale" in his studies.

His planned return to school causes fans throughout the nation to wonder more than ever before whether the youthful Chicago athlete actually knows what he is going to do, or wants to do.

On Feb. 9, Buddy told intimate friends that he would keep an appointment with officials of the New York Yankees in Gotham on the week end of Feb. 21.

The next day in South Bend, Ind., where he appeared as guest speaker at a banquet honoring local high school athletes, Buddy told newspapermen he would retain his amateur status and seek entrance at a college near his home next year. This, he said, was being done with the view of running on the U.S. team in the 1948 Olympic Games in London.

**Questions Mother**

Seeking the real answer to the Buddy Young puzzle, the AFRO questioned his mother, Mrs. Lillian Waterford, on Tuesday morning. This is what she said:

"The newspapers have a way of putting words in Buddy's mouth, and the things they say are not always what Buddy intended to say. Sat. 2-22-47

"The truth of the matter is simply this: Buddy has made application for registration with the Amateur Athletic Union, in the hope that he will be able to compete in the coming track season.

"We're not able to say what action will be taken by the AAU; we hope it is favorable. Buddy is anxious to run this year. As far as the Olympics are concerned, I can't say. They're a little far off.

**AAU Says "No"**

"I know nothing about Buddy's appointment in New York. Nor can I say anything about his plans to enter school next fall. I do know that he is still weighing a professional football offer, but I feel certain that, if the AAU approves his application for track, he will postpone any action that will interfere with his running until after the track season is over."

Mrs. Waterford made this statement on Tuesday. On Wednesday, the AAU denied Buddy reinstatement and suspended him for one year for his intention to accept money for a football game that was not played. Sat. 2-22-47

Young last Saturday joined New York Yankees of the American League with ... will play this season ... in the third quarter and ran to the Bears 9-yard line before being stopped.

# Buddy Young Stars As All-Stars Top Chicago Bears

Journal and Guide, Norfolk, Va.

CHICAGO — (NNPA) — Buddy Young the fleet-footed back from Illinois, ran up a total yardage of 163 yards against the burly Chicago Bears of the National Football league in the College All-Stars and Bears game at Soldiers Field here last Friday night. Sat. 8-30-47

In the 16-0 victory of the All-Stars over the Bears before 105,000 people, Young, whom the experts said was too small to play with the pros, sparked the All Stars to both of their touchdowns.

Snaring passes from George Ratterman, the ex-Notre Dame star, Buddy ripped the Bears' secondary literally to shreds and compelled them to put two men on him, giving Ratterman added opportunity to cross them up.

Also giving good account of himself was Horace Gillon, the former Nevada flash. In addition to playing a bang up defensive game, Gillon grabbed a long pass lat...

feet five inches, went to work on the Bears before the game was five minutes old. With the ball on his own 28-year line, Ratterman passed to Buddy who ran thirty-four yards to the Bears' 38-yard line. Sat. 8-30-47

Five plays later, Jim Mello, formerly of Notre Dame, scored for the All Stars, and before the quarter was ended Buddy was off again. After Ratterman lost seven yards on a pass attempt, he dropped back to his own goal line and shot one to Buddy who took it in the flat on the 4-yard line and slipped-hipped his way forty-seven yards to the Bears' 46.

Young also showed his mettle in the second quarter. After a 35-yard run was called back he took the ball for another ride, this time traveling twenty-five yards to midfield where he was tackled with such force by the Bears that he fumbled. The All-Stars recovered but couldn't advance...

## FOOTBALL YANKS ADD SPEEDSTER TO BACKFIELD

Claude (Buddy) Young signing contract with Dan Topping, president of the organization, looking on at the club's offices here yesterday.

Revealing that he had been sought by other clubs in both major leagues, Claude (Buddy) Young yesterday signed a 3-year contract to play football with the New York Yankees of the All-America Conference. Club officials refused to divulge the financial terms, but it was believed that Young will be paid in the neighborhood of $10,000 annually.

The brilliant 21-year-old Negro star, equally at home on cinder or board track or gridiron, was rated among the all-time football greats at the University of Illinois, where he played as a freshman and sophomore. In his first year, 1944, Young tied Red Grange's record of 13 touchdowns in one season.

Then came a year in the service, during which he was a member of the great Fleet City eleven. He returned to Illinois last fall and proceeded to spark the Illini to victory in the Rose Bowl. A sprint champion, Young had been aiming for the 1948 Olympics, but recently was ruled a professional. Hence his decision to join the football Yankees.

President Dan Topping of the Yankees, who introduced Young to sports writers yesterday at the downtown offices of the club, made it plain that his organization, although it had named Young its No. 1 man in the draft, had had nothing to do with Young's decision. "Our negotiations did not begin until after Buddy had turned professional," he declared.

Already, Topping disclosed, offers of deals for Young's services are coming to the Yankees. Chicago newspaper men present asked if Topping would sell Young to the Chicago Rockets, and Dan said he would, but only in exchange for the whole Chicago team.

Commissioner Jonas Ingram, Topping said, has sanctioned the deal between the Yankees and Young. Sat 5-17-47

# Buddy Young's Signing Starts Controversy

NEW YORK, May 16—(AP)—Buddy Young, Illinois University's squat Negro speedster of gridiron and track, signed a pro football contract with the New York Yankees of the All-America Conference Friday and immediately touched off a small controversy.

Young, who quit school in Midwinter shortly after being suspended for a year by the National AAU, entered the Midwestern school in 1944 and his class will not be graduated until June.

Commissioner Jonas B. Ingram of the All-America circuit was not available for comment, but his office said that he would examine the Young contract when it reaches his office and then rule on the case. Sat 5-17-47

Only Thursday Ingram replied to Coach William D. Murray of the University of Delaware eleven that the rules of the conference prohibited the signing of college athletes until their class had received diplomas. Sat 5-17-47

# BUDDY YOUNG JOINS FOOTBALL YANKEES

### Negro Halfback Who Starred at Illinois Signed for Salary Believed to Be $10,000

By LOUIS EFFRAT

# Chicago Comet Signs 3-Years

## Salary Terms Undisclosed as Pro Game Gets 12th Player

NEW YORK—Acquisition of Claude (Buddy) Young, former University of Illinois halfback sensation, was announced here Friday afternoon by the New York Yankees of the All-America Football Conference.

The announcement, made by Dan Topping, co-owner of the Gothamites, revealed that the terms agreed upon call for a three-year contract.

The formal signing of Young brought to an end the long period of speculation as to what the Chicago Comet planned for the future. The AFRO revealed in mid-February that Buddy would sign a Yankee contract "within two months." Sat 5-24-47

At the time of the AFRO revelation, Young's probable salary was set at $17,500 per year for two years, with a $10,000 bonus for signing. With the two principals having agreed upon a three-year pact, it is believed the stipulation is somewhat lower—in the neighborhood of $13,000 per season.

**Salary Unannounced**

Neither party, however, would verify this, nor would they give any hint as to what amount was involved.

Young first attracted nationwide attention as a gridiron star in 1944, while a freshman at Illinois. In his first year of collegiate play, the scintillating halfback tied Red Grange's record for scoring touchdowns in a single season.

Called into the service in 1945, Young played that season as a member of the Fleet City Bluejackets, No. 1 service team in the nation. A number of professional players were on the naval eleven and Young proved the standout back, counting 15 touchdowns.

Eight of his teammates of Fleet City days are members of the Yankees and Young was reported anxious to join that club.

**Topping's Top Choice**

Topping was equally eager to sign the Windy City speedster. The Yankees made Young their No. 1 choice in last fall's draft of collegiate talent. Although his class has not graduated, Young was dealt with through permission of AAC Commissioner Ingram, who ruled that his status as a professional was clear.

Young, who at 21 is married and the father of a son, decided to turn pro after the Rose Bowl game and was involved in a coast all-star promotion which fell through. As a result, he was declared ineligible by the AAU, and, shortly after that, by Illinois. An additional factor of his ineligibility was his acceptance of a job with the Chicago Old Timers' Athletic Club under his old trainer, Bob Anderson, athletic director of the club.

Young comes to the locals following a brilliant performance in the Rose Bowl Game, rated the most important classic in the country for college teams. He sparked the Illini to an overwhelming 45-14 rout of UCLA in the New Year's Day promotion.

**To Run Exhibitions**

Anderson and Max Barber, a director of the Old Timers' Club, handled the negotiations for Young.

They also will handle him in a series of sprint exhibitions between now and the opening of the football training season. The 5-5 speedster is only five pounds over his playing weight of 165.

Buddy will alternate at tailback, fullback, and wingback, according to assignments given to Spec Sanders, the other Yankee breakaway back, leading ball carrier in the All-America Conference last year.

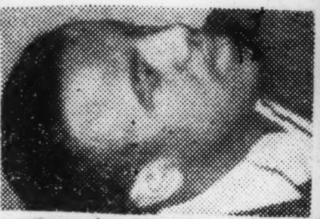
The strategy at present is not to alternate Young and Sanders. Sanders passes well enough so their simultaneous presence in the lineup will not signal an all-out ground attack.

Buddy becomes the 12th member of his race to be signed to a professional football contract.

Others are:

All-America Conference — Bill Willis, Marion Motley, Horace Gillom, Cleveland Browns; Bernie Jefferson, Bill Bass, Chicago Rockets; Oscar Givens, John Brown, Los Angeles Dons; Elmore Harris, Sam Gamble, Brooklyn Dodgers;

National League—Kenny Washington, Woody Strode, Los Angeles Rams. Sat 5-24-47



**For Holy Spirit Lettermen, Louisville**—It is true that a non-Catholic made the last all-Catholic All-America football team . . . You had me stumped until **Mary E. Ogden**, Pewee Valley, mailed in this clipping with a notation, "No prejudice here"—**"Jimmy Powers** heard the Negro star, **Buddy Young**, was a Catholic and nominated him for the All-Catholic All-America. He made it. Instead of trying to wriggle out of their faux pas, the sponsors of the team awarded Young his gold football and congratulated him on being the first Methodist ever to make the All-Catholic All-America."

**Buddy Young**

# Buddy Young's wife longs for quiet life with athletic star

Los Angeles Tribune Sat. 1-25-47

Los Angeles, Calif.

By THOMASINA AYERS

Where a few weeks ago I had the pleasure of interviewing Buddy Young's charming, unassuming mother, Mrs. Robert Waterford, this week I had a pleasant, if brief, chat with his young wife, Mrs. Geraldine Young; brief because the pair, with Buddy's old friend, sponsor and trainer Bob Anderson, had just flown in from Chicago for Sunday's professional game and wanted a chance to rest in their apartment in the Dunbar hotel.

Mrs. Young has been Mrs. Young for almost three years now, and her only regret is that she didn't get to change her name. She was a Young too, and the similarity continues, she bears a striking resemblance to her husband. Sat. 1-25-47

Mother of an 18-months old son, Mrs. Buddy Young is first and foremost a "homebody". The Youngs have a home in the 6000-family subdivision known as Altgeld Gardens, and her main complaint is that, as a family unit, they have had so very little time together. Being married to an athletic star is a little like life in an aquarium, and not only has Geraldine had the public, but she has had Buddy's Navy stint to bear with to boot.

Longtime chums, the Youngs became sweethearts in high school during their sophomore years. Before her marriage, Mrs. Young also attended the University of Illinois where she majored in sociology. Still interested in her old major, she takes an active part in community affairs and finds time for the Young Women's Auxiliary of the Olde Tymers Athletic club, of which Buddy's twin sister, Claudine, is president.

Her main interests, however, are Buddy and the baby, Mrs. Young with a wistful sigh for private days when she cooks for her famous husband, said. Sat. 1-25-47

His favorite dish: "Spaghetti", she told me, and she closed the interview with an anecdote. When he was 10, Buddy was hit by a car, but before the frightened driver could get out to pick him up, the youngster had jumped up, flung back a "I gotta hurry. My mom's cooking spaghetti today", and scooted off.

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# "Buddy" Young Voted Tops In All-Star Game

Atlanta, Ga. Atlanta Daily World Wed. 8-23-47

CHICAGO, (NNPA) A record number of newspapermen writers voted Buddy Young the most valuable player in the game between the College All Stars and the Chicago Bars at Soldier's Field last Friday night.

The newsmen, who saw the game gave Young the honor for his superb running and for his being a constant threat to the Bear's defense.

Young, the 5-foot-5-inch player from Illinois, gained a total of 114 yards. He carried the ball eight times for a gain of seventy three yards and snagged one pass for fourty-one yards. On thenext play the Bears put three men on With Young playing wide on the left flank and the Bears' defenses stripped, Gorge Ratterman was enabled to throw a long touchdown pass to John Zilly on the other end.

Although Young made his longest gains from the flanking position, he never failed to gain at least three yards when his 165 pounds was sent into the Bears' big line. He set up the All Stars' first touchdown by receiving a lateral pass and paved the way for the second by snaring a pass and traveling forty -one yards

In winning the honor, Young barely nosed out Raterman, former Notre Dame quarterback, who trailed him in the voting by four votes. It was the closest vote in the history of the award.

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# Former Illinois Star Superb In Pro Debut

Tues. 9-2-47 Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

BUFFALO, N. Y.— (SNS)— Claude "Buddy" Young, former Illinois ace made his debut as a pro by breaking away for 50 yards and a touchdown as the Buffolo Bills opened their All-American Football Conference season with a, 28-24 upset victory over the New York Yankees, Sunday afternoon, before 32,385 fans at Civic Stadium.

The score was deadlocked 7-7 at the end of the first half, and Young opened the second half by taking a pass from Orban "Spec" Sanders and sprinting 50 yards to pay dirt, to put the Yanks in the lead.

**CONSTANT THREAT**

The ex-Illinois speedster was a constant threat all afternoon, gaining 81 yards in thirteen attempts, an average of 6.23. Only once were the Bills able to stop him without gaining. Tues. 9-2-47

In the fourth quarter, the Yankees, sparked by Young, went to the Buffalo 12, where the attack stalled.

With the score toed 21-21 Johnson dropped back and booted a 20-yard place kick to put the Yanks out in front, 24-21.

**RATTERMAN TAKES OVER**

George Ratterman, who had kept the Yankees on edge all aftrnoon with his tricky oprations behind the Buffalo T-Formation took over and after Koch, Lou Tomasetti and Julie Rykovich advanced the ball to the 32 on running plays, shot a pass to Rykovich, moving the pigskin to the eight-yard stripe.

Tomasetti then went to the Yankees' four-yard line on the next play. Ratterman tossed a short pass to Chet Mutryn to win the game.

In the dramatic finish, Sanders uncorcked another brilliant passing attack, with Yankees moving the ball down the filed to the Bills' ten yard marker. His fling to Lloyd Chatman on the three yard line missed fire after the final gun had sounded. Tues. 9-2-47

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# Buddy Romps as All-Stars Win, 16-0

The Courier Pittsburgh Sat. 8-30-47

## Ex-Illnois Flash Proves to Be Pigskin Whirlwind and Is Elected Top Player in Chicago's Big All-Star Game As 105,000 Fans See Collegians Whip Mighty Bears

By AL DUNMORE

CHICAGO — Claude (Buddy) Young, football's "Mr. Lightning," flashed brilliantly Friday night before 105,840 fans here as he paced the 1947 College All-Stars to a 16-0 victory over the national league pro champions, the Chicago Bears, in one of the most spectacular games in the fourteen-year history of this annual gridiron classic.

Displaying his touted speed, the diminutive human dynamo, dazzled the great big bears and completely upset the famed defense of football's top ranking professionals. So impressive was his performance that he was elected the most vaulable player by a record number of newspapermen who saw the game He nosed out George Ratterman by four votes. The Courier

**OFFENSIVE STAR**

Gaining 73 yards on the ground, and carrying 41 yards on a forward pass play, Young was the leading offensive figure although he did not score a point. Both of the All-Stars' touchdowns were set up by the former Illinois ace who is now the property of the New York Yankees of the All-America Conference. Pittsburgh, Pa.

**GILLOM SPARKLES**

Sharing in the victory with Young was Horace Gillom, former University of Nevada star now with the Cleveland Browns. Gillom, an end, started the contest and played more than half of it, showing amazing defensive strength. He was particularly effective as a blocker and was a keen judge in downfield play under punts forcing the Bears great back, George McAfee, to call for a fair catch at one time.

Young, although the chief offensive weapon of the All-Stars, was used effectively as a decoy and allowed the other star backs such as Charlie Trippi, Julie Rykovich and Jim Mello, under the deft direction of George Ratterman, to break lose for sizeable gains as the Bears defense was over-shifting in an attempt to stop the always dangerous litlle fellow. Sat. 8-30-47

**BUDDY TAKES IT**

Buddy answered the question asked by many—"Is he too smal! for Professional Football?" by standing as a David in a field full of Goliaths and taking all the Bears had to give and making them back up. The Courier

On several occasions Young proved a great team player by throwing neat blocks to help clear the way for other backs who were carrying the mail.

Young started to move almost as soon as the All-Stars received the ball for the first time. After kicking off to the Bears, the Collegians took the ball on downs. After Mello failed to gain, Young carried the ball for three yards off right tackle, Mello went for seven and first down on the Stars 28. Vic Schewall and Young were held to no gain on two plays but on the next play George Ratterman, the surprising Frank Leahy protege, lateralled to Buddy who swept down the east sidelines for 31 yards to the Bears 41. Only the spedy MacAfee was able to stop the flashing little man. From here Schawall, Trippi, Rykovich and Mello teamed to carry the ball to the seven on successive downs and then the big fullback from Notre Dame carried over.

# Coveted Prize To Chicagoan

Chicago Defender

## Beats Ratterman In Poll By 4 Votes

Chicago, Ill.

By DAVID W. KELLUM

(Photo on Page 20)

With the plaudits of the 105,000 crowd ringing in his ears and having completely demonstrated his football toting ability, the one and only Buddy Young from Chicago's southside, was voted by the sport writers attending the 14th annual College All Star game at Soldier field, the most valuable player.

Thus Buddy, who stole the show in the Rose Bowl game in Pasadena on New Year's day and who is a product of my old alma mater, Wendell Phillips high school, becomes the first Negro to be thus honored. The vote was close—too close to be comfortable—the closest in the history of the classic.

Young triumphed, and to our mind rightfully so, over such All-Stars as George Ratterman of Notre Dame, Charley Trippi of Georgia, Jim Mello of Notre Dame, Weldon Humble of Rice Institute of Texas and John Cannady, University of Indiana center. Young's margin of victory over Ratterman was exactly FOUR votes.

Sat. 8-30-47

**BUDDY'S SELECTION AS** the most valuable All Star was based on his ball carrying ability which of course includes his zig-zag running and his being a constant threat to the Chicago Bears, National Pro League 1946 champions. Young sparked the All Stars 16 to 0 win. He carried the pigskin eight times for a total gain of 73 yards. He caught one pass from Ratterman and before the Bears finally rushed him outside the field of play, the former University of Illinois star, had gained 41 yards. What looked like a fool play at the time because the All Stars were with their backs to their own goal line and everybody expected the college team to punt, turned out to be a killer-diller and served notice on the crowd that anything might be pulled from the college team's bag of tricks.

One has to take his hat off to George Ratterman. He was a brainy field general and proved to be a wizard at the T-formation and if George Halas, owner of the Bears believes he has the T-formation perfected, he might do well to closet himself a few hours with Ratterman and Buddy. That combination worked like a Diesel engine and once started was hard to stop. Young never failed to gain at least three yards on a play.

**THAT 41-YARD** jaunt of Young's came in the first quarter and after Young had served notice on the Bears that they would be in for a tough evening by taking Ratterman's shovel pass over the center of the line and scooting 31 yards which set up the first All Star touchdown.

Horace Gillom, the big University of Nevada star played a whale of a game. In the fourth quarter, Ratterman hurled a long pass to Gillom who reached up to make one of those 'impossible" catches and eluded one tackler and was stopped on the Bears' eight. The play was good for 40 yards. Gillom, who didn't do any punting, but was the first down the field on All-Stars' punts to nail receivers.

Sat. 8-30-47

Oldtimers who have watched every All-Star game hoped that Young would score a touchdown. These fans remembered the year that although beaten, Jackie Robinson scored a touchdown for the All Stars.

# THE SPORTS BEAT

By WENDELL SMITH

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Pittsburgh Courier

## Leahy Showed 'Em How to Use Young . . .

Buddy Young was never fortunate enough to make All-America while he was zooming up and down the field at Illinois. This time last year they were saying that he was a sure-fire All-American selection and the best ball-carrier in the country. As the season progressed, however, Buddy failed to live up to expectations. His failure to produce was one of the 1947 football mysteries. Only in the Rose Bowl game did he seem to be the "old Buddy Young." Sat. 9-13-47

Pittsburgh, Pa.

No back in the country is as elusive as Buddy Young. His ability to cross his legs and shake off tacklers is unequaled. Here he is breaking away from Ray Ramsey of Chicago Rockets in game with New York Yankees last week. He went for 12 yards on this play. Note his leg action. Pros are using him to best advantage, something that didn't happen at Illinois.

It took the football world a whole year to find out what was wrong. Last season, in an effort to explain Young's ineffectiveness, the experts explained that he wasn't getting the blocking he deserved. They said the "Chicago Clipper" was being "sold out" by his blocking backs. They also said Buddy's teammates at Illinois were jealous and didn't want to see him dominate the headlines. But none of those excuses were logical enough to be universally accepted. Now, it seems, the answer has been solved. It took Frank Leahy, Notre Dame's great coach, to prove why Buddy was not the player of the year in 1946. In the College All-Stars-Chicago Bears' game, Buddy was a ball of fire. He was voted the outstanding player in the game by sports writers covering the contest.

Courier

The coaches at Illinois, it seems, failed to use Young to the best advantage. Leahy, on the other hand, played him exactly right and Young paid off. H. G. Salsinger, sports editor of The Detroit News, very ably explains the difference in the methods used by the Illinois coaches and those used by Leahy. According to Salsinger, Leahy knew how to use Young where Ray Elliott, Illinois coach, didn't.

Here is how the Detroit sports editor summed up the greatest football mystery of the 1946 season:

* * *

### Unsurpassed . . .

Sat. 9-13-47

**"IN OUR OPINION** Leahy performed probably the most remarkable coaching feat on record in beating the Bears.

"To begin with, he was put in charge of one of the weakest squads of All-Star collegians assembled in the 14-year history of the event. On top of that, he lost half a dozen or more of his best players through injuries.

"By game time, the Bears were 2 to 1 favorites with few takers and everybody in Soldier Field settled back to watch a massacre of collegians. What they saw was a figurative massacre of the powerful Bears.

* * *

### Leahy Performed a Miracle . . .

"LEAHY, with less good material than he has at Notre Dame, performed a football miracle. He took a couple of guards and converted them into tackles for one night. He put his offense in the hands of George Ratterman, who had been a second-string quarterback at Notre Dame (Lujack being the No. 1 field general). He took Buddy Young, who was stopped cold by Leahy's defense last September, and made him the star of the game.

"What he did with Young, if nothing else, stamped Leahy as a genius. At Illinois, the coaching staff had never taken advantage of Young's great speed. He did nothing against Michigan and little against other teams. Most of the plays in which Buddy was the ball carrier were directed inside tackle. The defense always knew what he was trying to do and as a result he never did very much.

* * *

Sat. 9-13-47

### Buddy Clicked Under N. D. Coach . . .

"LOOK AT what happened when Leahy took hold of Buddy: "He was never in the same spot twice. On one play he served as the right flanker, on the next as the left flanker. When he did not have his hands on the ball he was a decoy.

"The Bears put two defense men on Young and he made them look silly at times. On one play he took a flat pass off the left flank and ran 41 yards. On the next play he was on the right flank. He cut through and faded, taking his two defenders with him. He picked up another Bear secondary as he threaded his way through the defense, 'looking' for a pass. In the meantime Jack Zilly, the All-Stars right end, cut across, took a pass and ran 46 yards for a touchdown while the Bears were converging on Buddy, who never was sent inside tackle on any play that night.

"Ratterman, only a sub quarterback at Notre Dame, called every offensive signal on that night and he made Sid Luckman, the Bears' famed "T" quarterback, look like a tyro although Ratterman was in grade school when Luckman joined the Bears.

"After what Leahy did with comparatively scant material in the All-Star game, you can look for a super Notre Dame team this fall. Leahy lost only two games in two years as head coach of Boston College and three in the four years that he has coached at Notre Dame and the surest bet in football is that he will neither lose or tie one this year."

# Buddy Can You Spare Some Speed?

Daily Worker

*(Reprinted from late Sunday editions)*

New York, N.Y.

**By Bill Mardo**

**WHERE DAVID** used a sling shot, Claude "Buddy" Young uses leg speed and trickery. But the net result is the same. Goliaths just don't stand a chance.

If you were one of the lucky 36,000 Stadiumites the other night you'll know what I mean, Illinois' gift to the professionals said hello to New York. New York, as it will, sat back to say show me, and Buddy showed 'em. Mon. 9-8-47

Sure, scoring honors went to Spec Sanders, Prokop and Bob Kennedy—but statistics can often be just cold type in print and tell nothing of the real story. For instance, the figures won't reveal how a five foot five midget brought the crowd to its feet everytime he gobbled in a kick-off on his own 3, made monkeys of the guys who were laying for him by going in and away with one motion, and eye needling his way down the sidelines for 30 yards or more. The after game statistics never credit punt returns as "yards gained."

**Buddy would set the scores up, supply the spark and then cut wide as a wonderful decoy while Sanders would take the ball over or heave it for points.**

That's how Ray Flaherty used Young, mainly for runbacks of punts and kickoffs rather than on direct line bucks, although the tiny speedster bucked the middle four tries on small gains.

**If Buddy isn't a triple-threat man, he sure is double threat—running and decoying. But it's his leg work fans are most anxious to see and whenever Buddy gets just about a foot of space on which to take off, as he has on punt returns, he's unbelievable. On one such play in the third quarter against Chicago, Buddy was handcuffed by three brutes, each took a whack at him but found only air there as Five-by-Five cut on a dime and left 'em there knocking heads together. Only Chicago's safety, Bill Bass, finally forced Young to step out of bounds as he flew down the margin markers.** Mon. 9-8-47

For sheer open field running Buddy bids fair to take over lock, stock and barrel the pro ranks just as he did service and college football. It was when he starred for the Fleet City Bluejackets that Buddy got consistent rating as **"better than Red Grange."**

Grange was way before my time so I'll keep quiet but line coach Jim Barber said, in the dressing room after the game, that never was there a professional ball carrier quite the equal of the little guy stepping into civvies over three. And Ray Flaherty wants you to believe it's not just a coach's partisanship for his own that makes him say sincerely: **"Young? He's the greatest broken field runner of all time?"** Mon. 9-8-47

Buddy, himself, was only glad that he hadn't let any one down in what is now his new backyard, but when the age-old question was asked of him, said: **"No, I don't feel any different playing with the pros. Football is football."**

# Triple Guard Put On Classy Buddy Young In Yankee - Colt Game

Informer ~~Columbus, Ga.~~ Houston, Texas

BALTIMORE, Sept. — (NNPA) With three men watching him every moment that he was in the game Buddy Young, the former Illinois flash, was held scoreless again here last Sunday but the New York Yankees defeated the Baltimore Colts, 27-1, before 52,000 fans, a record crowd for pro football in the Monumental City.

Although the summaries will not indicate it, Buddy's presence in the Yankee lineup was the margin between victory and defeat.

While he was in the game the Yankee offense worked smoothly and with three men watching Buddy, Spec Sanders, the Yankee"s great back, was able to rip off long gains through the confused Colts' line. But with Buddy on the sidelines the Yankee attack bogged down and during the final period when he played very little, the Colts did a good job of pushing the Yankees all over the field.

Young was marked by the Colts from the opening kickoff. A few plays after the kick off, when he went into the Colt line for a slashing gain, his opponents actually ripped his playing jersey from his back.

He was taken from the game wearing the torn number 76 jersey and when he returned to the lineup a few minutes later wearing no. 77, the number made famous by Red Grange, the record crowd gave him a tremendous ovation.

The Colts were playing for keeps and the Yankees used their prize ball carrier sparingly.

Buddy usually entered the game when it was obvious that the Colts would have to kick, he remained in while the Yankees were on the offensive. As soon as the New Yorkers were put on the defensive he was called to the sidelines.

In the third period after the Colts had stiffened and held the Youngless Yankees for three trys at two yards, which would have given them a first down deep in Colt territory, Buddy was inserted into the lineup. Fri. 10-4-47

The Colts widened their defense for a pass or an offtackle slice and the diminutive Buddy received another ovation as he crossed the Colts up by diving over the center of their line for the coveted two yards. Fri. 10-4-47

A huge crowd of colored fans from Washington and Philadelphia came here by train and motorcades to see Buddy perform.

# YOUNG IS PRAISED FOR WORK AS DECOY

Times

### Yankee Football Coach Says Negro Ace Deserves Credit for Sanders' Success

New York, N.Y.

**By JOSEPH M. SHEEHAN**

**The statistics with which football reporters are bombarded these days plainly show what a great job Orban (Spec) Sanders is doing with the New York Yankees.**

**The big halfback from Texas leads his club and ranks at or near the top in the All-America Conference in every offensive department except pass receiving. This lone deficiency was succinctly explained by Coach Ray Flaherty yesterday. "After all, Spec can't throw the passes and catch them too," he said.** Fri. 10-10-47

However, the figures don't tell the whole story—and Flaherty did. At a press luncheon at the Stadium Club, with Dan Topping, Del Webb, George Weiss and all the other executives of the revamped Yankee sports empire in attendance, Flaherty paid tribute in virtually the same breath to Buddy Young, the spectacular Negro speedster from Illinois.

**Effectiveness Doubled**

"Having Young alongside of him at fullback has doubled Sanders' effectiveness this year. Buddy's speed makes him an excellent decoy. Whenever we send him in motion, Young draws one or two defenders with him, which makes it a lot easier for Spec to run or find an open pass receiver," Flaherty pointed out.

**At this point, Topping chimed in to deny emphatically the report that Young would be traded to the Los Angeles Dons for Glenn Dobbs. "Young is definitely not for sale or trade. I've never seen a fellow rougher or tougher and more willing to take it than that little guy. He just hates to come off the field," said Dan.**

**Although Ben Raimondi is slated for a trial at tailback when the Yankees open their interborough series with Brooklyn at the Stadium on Sunday, it is on the Sanders-Young combination that the New Yorkers depend when the going gets rough. In Flaherty's opinion, it may get that way against the Dodgers.**

# Buddy Young Runs 95 Yards To Score Yankee Touchdown

Defender, Chicago, Ill.

Claude "Buddy" Young, the former Chicago Wendell Phillips High School star halfback and all city selection, later hero at the University of Illinois, in the Navy and again at Illinois last year and in the Rose Bowl last New Year's Day returned to his home town last Friday night. Young, now with the New York Yankees pro team in the All-America Conference, was the magnet which drew most of the 20,310 fans to Soldier Field, a great portion of them Negroes. The Yankees beat the Rockets, 28-7. Sat. 11-1-47

No one had any idea that the Chicago Rockets, who had lot eight straight conference tilts before the Yankee game here, would win from the leaders in the Eastern division. But there were those who were anxious to see if Coach Crowley, former grid mentor at Fordham, was right when he said recently that Bill Bass, the ex-Tennessee State Negro halfback and Defender's All-American selection in 1944 and 1945 was more valuable than Young. This was in answer to those who had inquired why the Rockets hadn't made a trade to land Young for his hometown fans.

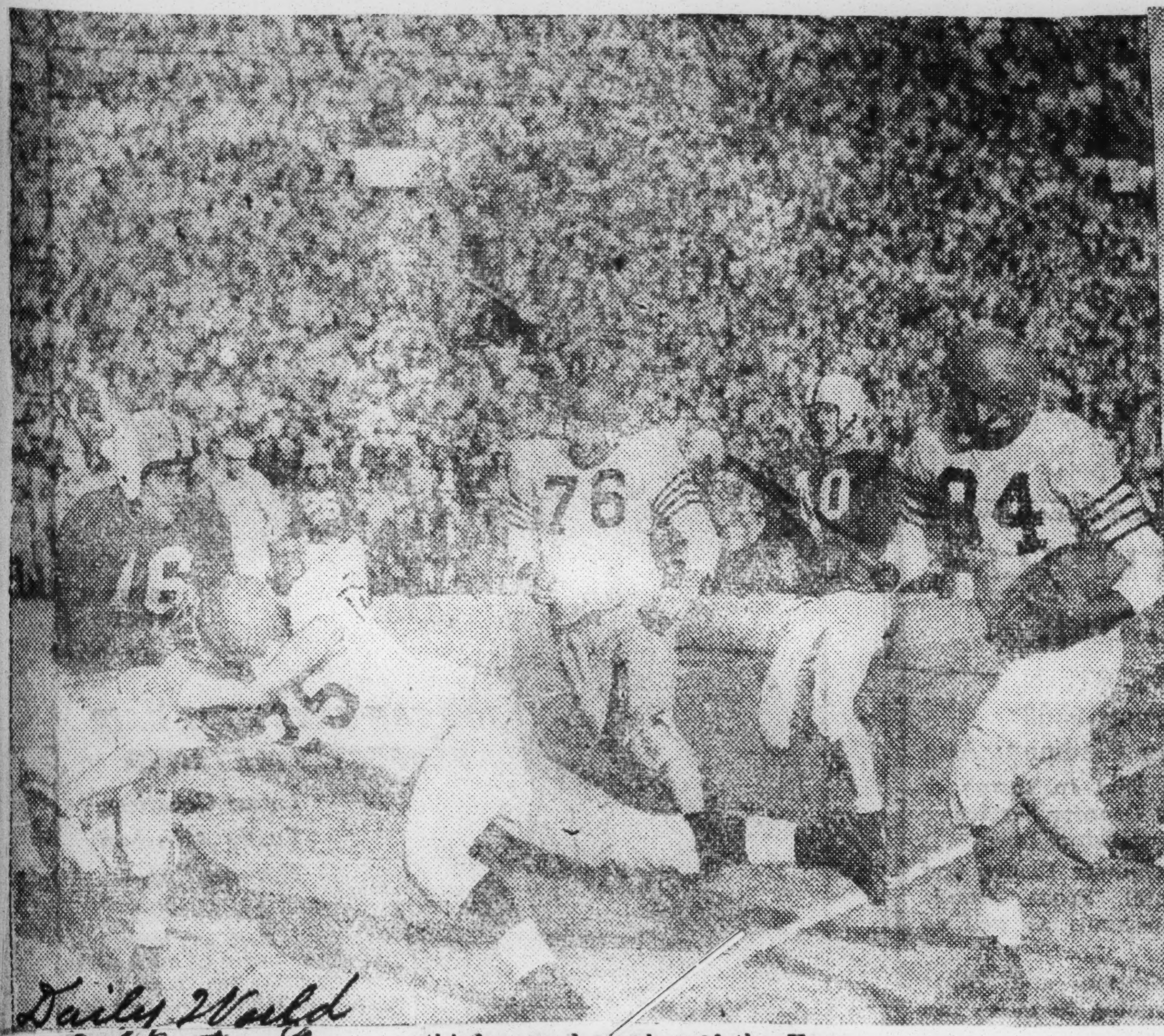
* * *

**YOUNG IS** strictly an open field runner. Between him and Spec Sanders, the most valuable player in the conference, they defeated the Rockets. Sanders was in one of his football moods. He rushed 24 times for 250 yards. He scored two touchdowns, one on a 28-yard jaunt and another on a 70-yard run. Then he tossed a pass to Bruce Alford, an end, for number three Yankee touchdown and stood by while Buddy Young staged one of sensational touchdown runs at the opening of the second half. Buddy ran the kickoff, with excellent blocking, back for a touchdown, taking the oval on the five and bringing the crowd to its feet as he scampered the remaining 95 yards to score. Defender, Chicago, Ill.

A minute later he was pulled out of the game with a leg injury. Before the Chicagoan had made his touchdown jaunt he had carried the ball seven times for a total of 41 yards. He and Sanders together moved the ball exactly 77 yards for the first touchdown the first time the Yankees got hold of the ball in the game. This gave the visitors a 7-0 lead at the end of the first half. Sat. 11-1-47.

Young, who starred in the All Star College team's victory over the Chicago Bears in Soldier Field in August and was voted the most valuable player on the college team, is still the elusive eel as he was in his prep school and college days.

Bill Bass, the Pennsylvania boy who played two years at Kentucky State, went into the Army and returned to play two more at Tennessee State, played a nice defensive game for the Rockets while he was in there.



Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

PAUL PATTERSON SETS UP ANOTHER TOUCHDOWN FOR ILLINOIS—Paul Patterson (No. 34) goes 17 yeards to the Burnis' two-yard marker in the second period. Patterson thus set up a touchdown which was scored on a quarterback sneak by Perry Moss of a few moments later. In other action Patterson scored once from the four-yard stripe to become the second Negro ever to score in the Rose Bowl Classic. He was the game's highest average ground gainer with 58 yards in five tries for an average of 11:60. (Photo Through Courtesy of A. S. Young and "Abie" Robinson, Los Angeles Sentinel). Tues. 1-7-47

## BUDDY SETS ROSE BOWL ON FIRE

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.

PASEDENA, Cal., Jan. 10 (NNPA)
— Colored gridiron stars stole the
est grid spectacle here last Wed-
show in one of the nation's great-
nesday with Buddy Young dancing
for two touchdowns and Paul
Patton ploughing for a third as
Illinois swamped the University of
California at Los Angeles, 45-14,
before 92,000 fans in the thirty-
third annual playing of the Tournament of Roses. Sat. 1-11-47

Ike Owens, an end, and Halfback Bert Piggott also turned in brilliant performances as Coach Ray Elliott turned loose his entire road squad of forty-two men against the Uclans.

In the most brilliant performance of his brilliant career, Buddy carried the mail twenty times for the Illini and picked up 103 yards for better than an average of five yards a try. Although he ran the Uclan ends and tackles silly in his usual manner, Buddy weighing only 161 pounds scored both his the center of the California line. touchdowns on plunges through

Young set up the first Illini score with a dash from his own 16 that carried to the eight yard line and followed it up with another run that ended on the two-yard marker from where Rykovich dived for the ecore.

"BUDDY YOUNG SETS UP TOUCHDOWN — "Buddy" Young (No. 66) set up another touchdown for Illinois on a run which UCLA Coach Burt La Brucherie says broke the Bruin's back. On this play, Young took a spread lateral on the UCLA 38-yard line. He retreated 25 yards, reversed his field and then romped to the UCLA 16 for a net gain of 22 yards. Young ran an estimated 100 yards on this second period play. Moments later, the mercury-winged back scored one of his two touchdowns. Note UCLAN sprawled in Young's wake. (Photo Through Courtesy of A. S. Young and "Abie" Robinson, Los Angeles Sentinel).

# "Buddy" Young, Paul Patterson Steal Show In Rose Bowl Game

Daily World, Atlanta, Ga. Tues. 1-7-47

PASEDENA, Cal. — (NNPA) — Colored gridiron stars stole the show in one of the nation's greatest grid spectacles here last Wednesday with Buddy Young dancing for two touchdowns and Paul Patterson ploughing for a third as Illinois swamped the University of California at Los Angeles, 45-14 before 92,000 fans in the thirty-third annual playing of the Tournament of Roses.

Ike Owens, an end, and Halfback Bert Piggott also turned in brilliant performances as Coach Ray Eliot turned loose his entire road squad of forty-two men against the Uclans.

In the most brilliant performance of his brilliant career. Buddy carried the mail twenty times for the Illini and picked up 103 yards for better than an average of five yards a try. Although he ran the Uclan ends and tackles silly in his usual manner, Buddy weighing only 161 pounds scored both his touchdowns on plunges through the center of the California line.

**YOUNG SETS UP FIRST TOUCHDOWN**

Young set up the first Illini score with a dash from his own 16 that carried to the eight yard line and followed it up with another run that ended on the two-yard marker from where Rykovich dived for the score.

In the second period he sparked a drive from the Illinois 40 that ended with him plunging center for his first touchdown.

A minute later, he alterrated with Paterson and Rykovich to reel off another 51 yard drive that ended with Patterson crossing the last stripe.

Near the end of the third quarter Buddy turned in his most brilliant performance of broken field running on a lateral that at one point found him 28 yards behind his own line of scrimmage. The play ended in a 19 yard gain for Illinois, and set off another 51-yard drive that ended with Buddy plunging center for a touchdown on the first play of the fourth period.

"BUDDY YOUNG" SCORES FOR ILLINOIS—"Buddy" Young (No. 66) becomes the first Negro athlete to score in the Pasadena Rose Bowl, as nee scampes over from the one-yard line to open the second period of the New Year's Day Classic which was won by the Big Nine Champion Illini of Illinois. They battered the previously untied, unbeaten UCLA Bruins, 45-14. In addiiton to Young, Paul Patterson, halfback, "Ike" Owens, end and Bert Piggott, fullback saw action for Illinois, while Bob Mike played briefly for the Bruins. 93,083 stunned fans witnessed the slaughter as the Illini posted the third highest touchdown total in Rose Bowl history. Young scored twice. (Photo Through Courtesy of A. S. Young and "Abie" Robinson, Los Angeles Sentinel).

# Illini Score 45-14 Win Over Uclans In Rose Bowl

Underrated Illinois scored what amounted to the most stunning of all the Bowl victories yesterday when it smothered a favored UCLA eleven, 45-14, before 92,000 in the Rose Bowl.

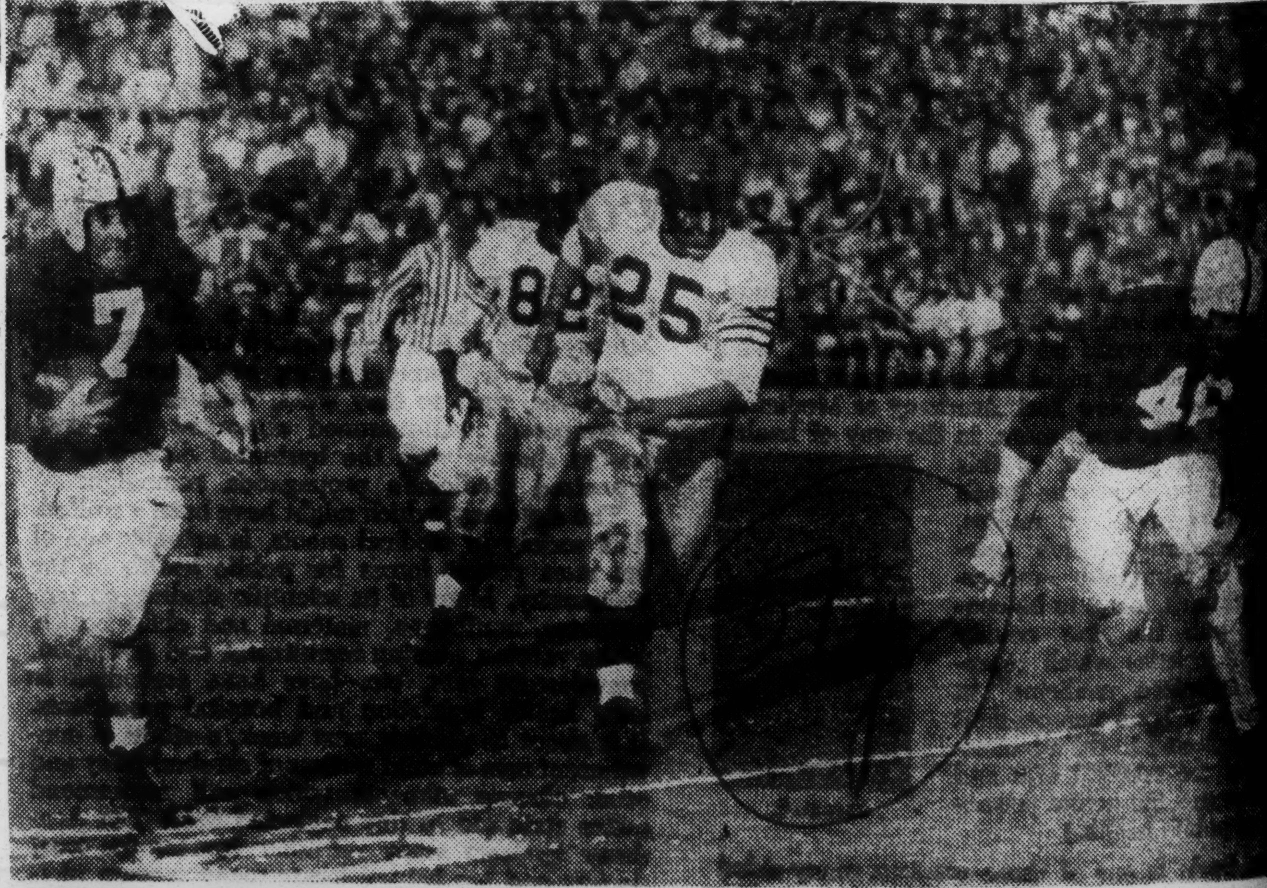
Al Hoisch's 103-yard return of a kickoff for a UCLA touchdown in the second period featured the opening half in which Illinois rolled up a 25-14 lead. Hoisch's run came just before the half ended.

Each team scored in the first period, with Julius Rykovich first going over for Illinois and Ernie Case following with a UCLA touchdown. Buddy Young, Paul Patterson and Perry Moss plunged over for three Illinois touchdowns in the second period. Don Maechtle converted the extra point after the second touchdown but failed on the others. Case made both extra points for UCLA.

Neither team scored in the third period but as the quarter drew to a close, Illinois drove 86 yards to the one-foot line, whence Young went over on the first play of the last period.

Illinois made it 38-14 when Steger intercepted a pass by Ernie Case and ran 65 yards for a touchdown. Later in the period, Green intercepted another Case pass and ran it 22 yards for the final touchdown of the day.

Buddy Young, who did his darndest to make things unpleasant for the Uclans in the Rose Bowl drives to the UCLA one-yard line at the close of the second period. On the first play of the third period, the Illinois flash went over for one of seven Illini touchdowns.



This was UCLA's only chance to howl in the Rose Bowl game. Halfback Al Hoisch of the Uclans crosses his own 20-yard line, making it only 80 yards to go on his 103-yard scoring romp against Illinois in the Pasadena New Year's Day game.

# Coaches, Officials Praise Dean Braggs

51g Atlanta Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Tues. 9-9-47

**BY JOEL W. SMITH**

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — (SNS)—Looking forward to a great season on the gridiron, members of the Southern Coaches and Officials Association convened in the twenty-fifth anniversary session, Saturday, at Edward Waters College. President G. H. Hobson, head coach at Alabama A. and M. College presided.

In planning the meeting, the officials of the Jacksonville Officials Association decided to honor Dean J. B. Bragg, Athletic Counselor at Florida A. and M. College, so during the morning session, speakers centered their remarks around the many admirable qualities of the "Grand Old Man" of the Southern Conference."

**TRUE SPORTSMANSHIP**

Dr. Napoleon Rivers, head of the Department of Romance Languages Miner Teachers College, Washington, D. C., who knew Dean Bragg while a student at Talladega College gave a few examples from the life of the Dean, which mad it clear that he believed in true sportsmanship. Other speakers lauded Dean Bragg on his keen insight and vision in the growth and development of both the SIAC and the SCOA.

Illness prevented Dean Bragg from attending the meeting, so the coaches and officials were given a report on his condition by Head Coach A. S. Gaither, of Florida A. and M. College. "In spite of his illness, Dean Bragg is still carrying on," the Florida mentor said.

**LANE, EDWARD WATERS PRESIDENT SPEAK**

The highlight of the meeting were two timely impromptu speeches by Dr. Dean S. Yarbrough, president of Lane College and Dr. A. J. White, president of Edward Waters College. After stressing the fact that the coach is just as important as anybody else on the faculty, Dr. Yarbrough pointed tothe need of more college trained men in baseball. "Coaches have an opportunity to help the Negro take his place in the sun," he said, "and I hope every college president will get wise to this fact."

Dr. White welcomed the coaches and officials to Edward College and repeatedly emphasized the importance of health and physical training in the school program.

The Rules Interpretation and Demonstrations were held at Wolder Park with G. H. Lennon and Emmett N. Reed, president of the Jacksonville Officials Association in charge. The Stanton High School team, coached by J. Purcell Small, assisted by Theodore Montgomery, ex-Florida star run off the plays designed to bring the officials up to date on new changes in the football rules. Dr. William H. Gray, Jr., President of Florida A. and M. College attended this session.

The final session was held at the Wilder Community Center. After the assignment of officials, President Hobson made several observations, pointing to the need for an improved system of grading and assigning officials.

**TO MEET IN B'HAM NEXT SEPTEMBER**

The body voted to hold the meet-September, 1948. President Hobson, ing at Birmingham, Alabama in Secretary-Treasurer B. T. Harvey, and other officers were reelected.

New Southern Conference coaches present at the meeting were Marion Curry of Clark College; Alfred Priestley of Xavier University Charles Spearman of LeMoyne College and R. S. Turner of Benedict College. The visiting coaches included Theodore Wright of Georgia State College and "Chris" Roulhac of Albany State College.

Other coaches present were: C. Johnson, Dunn, Alabama State Teachers College, H. A. Johnson, of Fisk University, Edward Clemons, Lane College, Frank L. Forbes of Morehouse College, Artis P. Graves Morris Brown College, Paul Webber, South Carolina State College, A. S. Gaither, Florida A. and M. College; Richard Craig, Fort Valley State College; Cleve L. Abbott, of Tuskegee Institute and Leon Jordan of Knoxville, Tenn.

51g 1947 The South

# Negroes and Whites Play Football On Southern Field for First Time

New York Times 11-24-47

## Non-Segregated Crowd of 3,000 Sees Game at Durham, N. C., Arranged to Show U. S. Racial Tolerance to World

Mon.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

DURHAM, N. C., Nov. 23—The first football game to be played between a team of Negroes and a team of whites in the South featured the third annual Piedmont Tobacco Bowl program today at the Durham Athletic Park.

Before a non-segregated crowd of 3,000 the Vulpine Athletic Club of Philadelphia, the whites, and the Willow Tree Athletic Club of Washington, D. C., the Negro team, played to a 6-6 tie on a muddy field in a steady rain.

Lewis E. Austin, publisher of The Carolina Times, a Durham Negro weekly newspaper, and president of the Piedmont Tobacco Bowl Corporation, said after the contest:

"We arranged this game to show subversive elements in foreign countries—and particularly in Russia—that the members of the different races in America can play together as well as fight a common enemy together, as we did in the second World War."

He added that the purpose of the game was to promote good-will between the races in the South.

"Last summer," he continued, "a team of Southern whites from Danville, Va., played the Durham Eagles of the Carolina Negro Baseball League here.

"And the results were so good that we decided to arrange this inter-racial football game today."

51g 1947 George Taliaferro

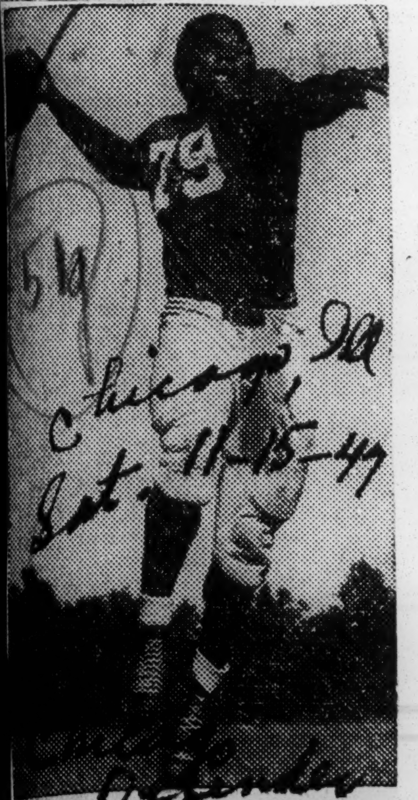
# TALIAFERRO IS HOTTEST STARTER IN THE BIG NINE

Saint Louis Argus

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Bo McMillin has tabbed George Taliaferro, his own Negro left halfback, the finest halfback I ever coached. Saint Louis Mo.

He may be able to go much stronger on the superlatives by season's end. Big George — 195-pound triple threater from Gary —has picked up just where he left off two years ago as a freshman sensation. Fri. 10-17-47

His name is sprinkled all thru the statistics released today by the Big Nine on conference games. Taliaferro picked up 107 yards in 20 rushes against Wisconsin, giving him the lead in that department. He completed one pass out of three for 14 yds., caught three passes for 27 yds., punted twice for 67 yds., returned three punts for 31 yds. and two kickoffs for 41 yds.



Chicago Ill. Sat. 11-15-47 Chicago Defender

BROKEN RIB—George Taliaferro, University of Indiana's leading ground gainer and hurler of passes from Roosevelt's high in Gary, Ind., was forced to the sidelines and out of the game most likely for the balance of the season with a broken rib Saturday in the game against Michigan. The injury occurred in the first quarter.

51h 1947

# Rhodes Is Well Up In Golf Open

*Afro-Am.*
*Baltimore, Md.*
*Sat. 1-11-47*

## Nashville Lad Leads Many 'Big' Names in L.A. Play

LOS ANGELES, Cal.—Theodore (Teddy) Rhodes, former Nashville, Tenn., caddy whom Joe Louis sponsored into his first major tournament "to give him a chance," stood well up among the nation's top-bracket white golfers as the third round of the 72-hole Los Angeles Open tournament was completed here Sunday.

Rhodes, winner of the 1946 Joe Louis Open and the first of his race to take down a cash prize in major interracial competition—in last year's All-American tourney—carded a score of 223 for the 54 holes played through the week end. *Sat. 1-11-47*

Although he has virtually no chance of capturing a money berth in the affair, Rhodes's performance has proved exceptionally noteworthy. His 223 leads many of the biggest names in the links world and, except for a disastrous second round on Saturday, might well be a serious threat to the pace-setting Ben Hogan.

Chief among those internationally famous veterans of the game who trailed him as the field reached the three-quarter mark were: *Sat. 1-11-47*

**Leads McSpaden, Little**

Jug McSpaden, former All-American champion and twice titleholder of the Professional Golfers' Association, at 228; Lawson Little, three times national amateur champion and twice British amateur king, at 224; McDonald Smith, one time PGA titlist and former Canadian Open winner, at 226; Joe Kirkwood, world renowned trick-shot artist, and Smiley Quick, current national amateur champion, both of whom registered 227's.

In addition to heading these topline strokers, Rhodes tied Lou Worsham, present Western open king, and was only one stroke behind Charles Ward of Birmingham, England, British champ, and Ray Mangrum, 1946 national open titlist. *Sat. 1-11-47*

The Nashvillean fired a par 71 for his opening round and came back on Sunday to turn in a sizzling 70. Sandwiched between, however, was an unfortunate 82 for his Saturday trip, which wrecked a score that would have been a distinct threat.

# Joe Louis Open $1,000 Top Prize To Ted Rhodes

*Chicago Defender*
*Chicago, Ill.*

By **RUSS J. COWANS**

DETROIT — Theodore Rhodes, 33-year-old Nashville pro, not only retained his championship, but set a new tournament record Thursday for the Joe Louis Invitational as he fired a 280 for the 72 holes over the Rackham course, 10 strokes below his mark of 290 which he made in 1946, and eight strokes under par.

*Sat. 8-30-47*
Rhodes

The capture of the $1,000 top prize in the three-day $2,500 tournament was the sixth consecutive tourney won by the affable Teddy since last June. He opened the season by winning the Houston Open, won the Chicago Open, finished first in the Miami View Open in Dayton, Ohio; was first in the Courier-Yorkshire Open, and won the Sixth City Open in Cleveland. He did not compete in the Midwestern Open at Toledo.

Not only did Rhodes take down top prize in these tourneys, but he fired sub-par golf in most of them. He was five under par in the Pittsburgh meet, even par in Dayton, and one under in Cleveland, in addition to establishing a new record of 66 for the Seneca Park course.

Although he fired a two under par 70 Tuesday as the tourney opened, Rhodes had to be content with second place as Solomon Hughes, Minneapolis, 1945 winner of the Louis Invitational, coupled nines of 36 and 32 for a sparkling 68 to take the lead.

Charles Sifford, 23-year-old Philadelphian, grabbed the lead Wednesday as he sprinkled five birdies over the 18 holes, collecting three on the first nine, and two on the back nine for a 68, giving him 138 for the two days of play.

Hughes added a 70 for 140, while Howard Wheeler, the cross-hand player from Philadelphia, national open champion, was third with 142. Three players were tied at 143 for fourth place. They were Rhodes, Homer Harvey Jr., Chicago, and Bill Spiller, Los Angeles, 1946 amateur champion.

Sifford soared to 73 on the first 18 holes of the final Thursday and lost the lead to Hughes, who fired a 69. Rhodes shot a four under par 68 to tie Sifford for second place, with Bill Spiller a stroke back on his 69. Wheeler was fourth with 214, and LeRoy Smith, Norfolk, was fifth with 215. *Sat. 8-30-47*

**SPILLER TIED** Rhodes for the lead at the end of 54 holes by touring the first nine in 33, notwithstanding the fact that he doubled bogeyed the par five seventh hole. Rhodes had a 33 as he collected two birdies, one bogey and pars on the remaining six holes.

Starting the final nine, Rhodes had a birdie on the 465-yard tenth, while Spiller was even par. The Los Angeles pro could not make up this deficit, and then blew himself out of the championship by getting bogeys on the 16th and 17th, finishing with 71.

Rhodes clinched the crown when he sank a 15-foot put on the 18th after a beautiful chip shot 10 feet from the green.

In addition to the $1,000, Rhodes gets his second leg on the Hotel Gotham trophy.

Eural Clark, Los Angeles, defeated Dr. Remus Robinson, Detroit, 2 and 1 on the 17th green for the amateur crown. Clark had defeated Fleming Cody, St. Louis, 8 and 7, to gain the finale, while Dr. Robinson won from Bill Davis, Detroit, 4 and 2 in the semi-final. Clark was one over par for the distance.

The Louis tournament was the first major tournament Clark had competed in. He is a former caddy from one of the exclusive clubs in Birmingham, Ala., where he was born 23 years ago.

Five of the pros finished the 72 holes under par, while eight bettered the mark of 290 made by Rhodes in 1946. *Sat. 8-30-47*

Here's how the first 11 of the 91 pros finished: Rhodes, 280; Spiller, 283; Hughes, 283; Howard Wheeler, 286; Willie Mosley, Detroit, 286; LeRoy Smith, Norfolk, Va., 289; Charles Sifford, Philadelphia, 289; Preston Knowles, New York, 291; Sherry Wellon, Detroit, 291; John Beck Rice, Detroit, 291; Joe Roach, Coconut Grove, Fla., 291.

Jimmy Clark, Clearwater, Fla., fired the low score of the tournament when he blasted a 66, 33 out and 33 in to couple with his earlier scores of 74-75-71- for 292.

Louis, after firing 37-35 for an even par 72 to win the low medalist honors Monday, was eliminated in the first round Tuesday by Isaac Brown, Washington, D. C., 2 and 1.

# Rhodes Cops Golf Crown, Louis Beaten

*Afro-American*
*Baltimore, Md.*
*Sat. 8-23-47*

## Heavyweight Champ Bows to L. A. Stroker in Amateur Playoff

CLEVELAND—Joe Louis, world heavyweight boxing champion, turned in a medal score of 75 which was not enough in the Sixth City Golf Association tournament at Seneca, and he lost in the final round, 3 and 2.

The champion was defeated by Judson Grant, of Los Angeles, who medalled a 74 last Thursday in the 18-hole amateur windup.

Ted Rhodes, Los Angeles professional, won the pro title. He fashioned a 287 total for the 72 holes, which included a record breaking 66 in last Wednesday's round. Bill Spiller of Los Angeles was second with 294 after firing a 67 in his opening round earlier in the week.

Play was interrupted last Thursday by a heavy thunderstorm but the finalists were able to finish the tourney.

In the semi-finals, Louis defeated Tut Holmes of Detroit, and Grant defeated Ollie Dawson, former John Carroll University star athlete.

Grant, Louis, Holmes and Dawson moved into the semi-finals last Wednesday, but the day's real fireworks were provided by Rhodes in setting a new course record. *Sat. 8-23-47*

Rhodes, who gives lessons to Louis and traveled the tournament circuit with the boxing king, fired six birdies and toured the remainder of the course in even par to better by one stroke the Seneca record of 67 set Tuesday of last week by Spiller.

Ted out in 34, had 32 on the home stretch to tie Spiller for the lead in the professional division of the $2,500 open, each with 142. Rhodes had 76-66 while Spiller's total was 67-75. *Sat. 8-23-47*

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Par, out.... | 445 | 344 | 444 | 36 | |
| Rhodes, out.. | 345 | 344 | 344 | 34 | |
| Par, in...... | 435 | 335 | 444 | 36 | 72 |
| Rhodes, in.. | 434 | 334 | 443 | 32 | 62 |

Louis defeated Eddie Mallory of Philadelphia, two up, in his first round encounter and then dropped Leroy McCain of Akron, Ohio, 2 and 1, in the afternoon. Dawson won by default in the morning from Jim Caspio of Cleveland and defeated Ewell Clark of Los Angeles, 2 and 1.

Thelma Collins of Detroit took the lead in the women's tourney with 95, while Alice Stewart of Detroit had 98 for second choice.

**AMATEUR RESULTS**

**FIRST ROUND**

Joe Louis, Detroit, defeated Eddie Mallory, Philadelphia, 2 up; Leroy McCain, Akron, defeated Clarence Watson, Cleveland, 3 and 2; Tut Holmes, Detroit, defeated Quentin Collum, Cleveland, 5 and 4; Harold Kincaid, Dayton, defeated Ernest Hollins, Philadelphia, 3 and 2; Ollie Dawson, Cleveland, defeated Jim Caspio by default; Ewell Clark, Los Angeles, defeated Joe Hudson, Philadelphia, 5 and 4; Judson Grant, Los Angeles, defeated Dave Pinkett, Washington, 6 and 5; Clarence Goodson, Harrisburg, Pa., defeated Leonard Reed, Detroit, 2 up.

**SECOND ROUND**

Louis defeated McCain, 2 and 1; Holmes defeated Hollins, 3 and 2; Dawson defeated Clark, 3 and 2; Grant defeated Goodson, 5 and 4.

# Started Golf On Doctor's Orders Thelma Is Now National Champ

By BILL MATNEY

DETROIT—Early this summer, before many of the golf enthusiasts began to pour onto Detroit's public courses, a group of men were standing on the Rackham clubhouse veranda watching a figure clad in bright red slacks taking vigorous swings on the practice tee.

One remarked, "There's Thelma Cowans out there starting off right. This may be her year. With practice, she'll be hard to beat."

Evidently the practice paid off, for Thelma Cowans has compiled the most outstanding record of any Negro woman golfer in the country for the current season.

Despite inclement weather, Thelma manager to squeeze in a few hours of practice each week—that is after her multiple duties as housewife, mother, and career woman had been successfully completed.

Amazingly enough, Thelma has been playing the game for only seven years. Even more amazing is the fact that she started the game at the request of her physician who felt that golf would improve a physical condition which had been brought on by a severe illness.

**Feuds With Sister**

At the same time of Thelma's beginning in golf, her younger sister, Theresa Howell, started the game too. Both girls hit their first shots off the tee at the same time.

In the summer of '43, both girls got back on the fairways and resumed their feud. In '44 they started the tournament grind again. Despite the fact that Thelma has the decided edge in victories, her younger (by two years) sister still asserts loudly that she will win whenever they meet.

Last year, Theresa gained a great deal of satisfaction in eliminating Thelma in the Ohio Amateur at Cleveland. Both girls reached the finals but Theresa prevailed throughout the 18 holes.

But it's been a different story this year as Thelma has stroked her way to victory in every major tourney in the circuit. She won the Sixth City Open, was runner-up in the Dayton, low medalist in the Eastern Golf Association's tourney, runner-up in Toledo, winner of Michigan Chronicle Amateur, Detroit Amateur Golf Kickers' Handicap, National Open Championship, and Chicago Open tourneys.

Thelma attributed her success this year to several factors, foremost of which is the coaching of Leonard Reed, a leading amateur golfer and secretary to Joe Louis. According to the pupil Reed's patient instruction and careful analysis of her game chopped 10 strokes and with those strokes, started a red-hot feud which has flared in every tournament in which the two have participated over the seven year period.

Born in Eatonton, Ga., a few miles from Atlanta, both girls came to Detroit at an early age, and attended Wingert Intermediate School. There they became penthalon champions. Thelma recalls rather proudly that her specialty was the baseball throw. "I could really throw that ball," she reflected with a smile.

**Attended Morris Brown**

Inseparable companions in everything but golf, Thelma and Theresa returned to Atlanta after graduation from high school to attend Morris Brown College. Thelma majored in business administration and Thelma stuck to physical ed.

Mrs. Cowans' phenomenal tournament record started in 1941 in the Southern Open at Tuskegee, which she won handily. Later in the year she achieved runner-up honors in the Tuskegee tourney. In '41 also, Thelma entered the National Open which was held in Boston, but was eliminated.

During her seven-year tournament record, Thelma has never qualified in any flight other than the championship division. In 1942, she and Theresa came to Detroit to assist in the war effort. During that year, neither sister played golf.

THELMA COWANS who started seven years ago playing golf on doctor's orders, is today's national champion and has compiled the most outstanding record of any Negro woman golf player in the country for the current season. Mrs. Cowans, who began her phenomenal tournament record in 1941 in the Southern Open at Tuskegee, has been victorious in every major tourney in the circuit this year.

51h 1947

# Adams, Seay Top Monumental Golf

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

BALTIMORE

Willie (Little Willie) Adams and Samuel Seay, carding 71's for the 18-hole test, shared honors in the annual Monumental Golf Association handicap tournament at Carroll Park links on Sunday.

The two strokesters exhibited some classy driving and putting to best a field of 28 club competitors.

Adams made it a "double" when he took down medalist honors with a 78 in the qualifying round.

Walter Burke captured first place in B Flight, with Askew Gatewood, runner-up. Top man in C. Flight was Leon Lewis, with Louis Weaver copping second prize. 5-24-47 Sat.

The Monumentals will engage in a team match with the Fairview Club linksmen in Philadelphia Sunday. Slated to represent the locals are Sam Stewart, Willie Adams, Clyde Martin, Chink Stewart, Alex Pinkney, W. Johnson, J. Brashears, Cliff Tarter, W. Burke, Earl Parker, E. Spruell, Harry Carroll, C. Hoyle, N. Tyler, N. Walalce, R. Holland, Louis and Neal Weaver, L. Lewis, F. Cook, S. Seay, A. Gatewood, A. Meyers, R. McGuinn, Ernest Brown and William Dixon.

Women's Auxiliary: Morpehlia Winston, M. Murphy, A. Douglass, D. Earter, O. Pinkney, A. Gatewood, V. Adams, Marguerite Brown. Sat. 5-31-47

# Lewis Cops Southeastern Golf Meet

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier
Sat. 6-14-47

By CALVIN E. ADAMS

JACKSONVILLE— Posting a low score of 271 for 72 holes of medal play in the professional ranks to win top honors in the annual $1,000 Southeastern Open Golf Tournament held here last week was Richard Lewis of Bartow. The tournament was held at the Lincoln Golf and Country Club, jointly sponsored by the country club, the Jacksonville Negro Golfers' Association and the Jacksonville Golfers' Amatuer Guild.

Top money of $315 was won by the Bartow lad, who was a dark horse in the tourney and surprised the field and gallery with his stellar and magnificant game throughout. Lewis was cool and determined when the going was rough and many of the golfers tried vainly to overtake Lewis, but all efforts fell on deaf clubs.

The Bartow shotmaker who was always in the running did not really begin to show his ability as a golfer until the last day of the tourney. Up to the final 18 holes the field had been led by Quitman McDonald of West Palm Beach. Lewis quickly overtook McDonald who had a one stroke lead before the first nine holes had been played. After getting out in front, there was no chance for the others.

John Henry Johnson, Jacksonville pro copped the second prize money with a 274 and Bobby Jones local pro, winner of last year's open and Bob Warren, St. Petersburg finished in a tie for third place. Each posted cards which tallied at 275. Johnson received $200 for his placing in the matches and Jones and Warren went away with $125 each. Sat. 6-14-47.

In the amateur division, in which a large number of the Nation's top golfers saw action, the winner was George Doster, splendid shotmaker of West Palm Beach who posted a low score with many strokes to spare in his division. Pacing him in second place was Pappy Hampton a local lad, followed closely by Teddy Grimes of Miami.

All of these amateur winners were awarded beautiful trophies and war bonds amounting to $250.

## JOE LOUIS WINS ON LINKS

Times, New York, N.Y.

Takes Eastern Amateur Final at Pittsburgh, 4 and 3

Fri 8-8-47

PITTSBURGH, Aug. 7 (AP)—Joe Louis, world heavyweight boxing champion, won the Eastern Golf Association amateur championship today at the South Park Course.

The Brown Bomber played fifteen holes in four over par to defeat Jacques Isler, New York attorney, 4 and 3, in the final match. Louis was in Pittsburgh to attend the annual celebration of frog week.

Ted Rhodes, Nashville, Tenn., won the open championship w... a final round of 69, three und... par, and a 72-hole total of 28... five under par. Howard Wheele... cross-handed player, took secor... place with a 73 and an aggrega... of 292.

Hazel Foreman, Washington D. C., took the women's crown, defeating Lorraine Sawyer, Philadelphia, 3 and 2.

*Veteran Authority Picks*

Afro-American Sat. 6-7-47
Baltimore, Md.

# Californian No. 1 Golfer

By LOUIS RAFAEL CORBIN

HAMILTON, BERMUDA—Who are the world's 10 leading golfers?

This is a question quite a few of my friends in America, as well as here in Bermuda, have asked me.

Having played with and against all the national open winners in America since 1926 [with one exception] as well as the best in Bermuda, these people think I should qualify to answer.

Here they are at any rate:

1. **Cliff Strickland, California.**
2. **Llewlyn DeRosa, Bermuda**
3. **Edison Marshall, New Orleans.**
4. **Robert (Pat) Ball, Chicago.**
5. **John Brooke Denby, Asheville, N.C.**
6. **Howard Wheeler, California.**
7. **James McCoy, New York City.**
8. **Theodore Rhodes, Nashville, Tenn.**
9. **Soloman Hughes, Gadsden, Ala.**
10. **Zeke Hartsfield, Atlanta, Ga.**

Special mention: Earle Lowe, Bermuda; Noel (Tip) Smith, Bermuda; Frank Gaskins, Philadelphia; Calvin Searles, New Orleans; Clyde Martin, Detroit; Ben Greene, New Orleans; Howard Taylor, New Jersey; John Roux, New Orleans; Clifford Taylor, NYC; Jesse Harvey, New Jersey; George Lowe, Bermuda, and Herman Santucci, Bermuda.

Strickland, 20-year-old Riverside, Calif., professional, won the National Open of 1939, scoring 296 for 72 holes to finish nine strokes in front of the field of over 200 golfers at the Griffith Park Course, California. This was the first and only time this golfer had competed in this tournament, and judging by the way he went through the field, I don't think anyone will question his rating. Sat. 6-7-47

**Starred at Santa Monica**

In 1936 and '37 he was the sensation of the Santa Monica Open, when for 36 holes he led a field which included Walter Hagen, Horton Smith and many other great golfers in the world at that time. At the end of the 72-hole play, he finished in fourth place, and in one round, his 67 was recorded as a new course record.

De Rosa, brilliant young golfer from Southampton, Bermuda, has won quite a few tournaments here. He's rated by many as the longest driver in the world. De Rosa has never been to America, but is planning, next summer, to compete in the Tam ... hanter All-American Open at ... cago, as well as the Joe Louis ... pen in Detroit. If he does, I say right now, look out, my American friends, because this ...cy is the real McCoy.

I well remember witnessing his finish in the Belmont Manor G.C. Tournament of last winter. Leaving the 15th tee, knowing he needed to score two birdies and two pars to win, he tore those four holes to pieces. Bobby Jones or Byron Nelson couldn't have played better. Sat. 6-7-47

**Marshall Good**

Of course, I realize quite a few of my golfing friends will question why I rate De Rosa in No. 2 position—the reason is obvious. As a golfer, he has what it takes and his scores in winning tournaments checked against par have more than earned him this rating. He plays the kind of golf that will do well in America. I'm quite willing to gamble he will be a sensation in all the tournaments in which he competes.

Marshall, New Orleans professional winner of the National Open, '30, '31 and '32, after tying for first place with a score of 283 with John Denby, in which he scored a great finishing round of 65 [lowest single round ever carded in the Nationals] lost out in a 36-hole playoff, 147 against Denby's 144.

In '33, he was runner-up again. Again in '39, he was runner-up at California, and won the Toledo Open in '38 and '39.

One may question why Marshall, with only two National Open titles, is ahead of Ball, who is a four-time winner. The reason is obvious. In seven tournaments form '30 to '41, Marshall finished in front of Ball six times in a row. The only time he was behind was in '41, the last time Ball won the Open.

On top of this, Marshall headed Ball in Toledo those same years.

**4 Times Champ**

Ball was four times winner of the National Open, '27, '29, '34 and '41. The first National Open win for Ball was in '27 at Stowe, Mass., His winning score of 293 for 72 was 20 strokes in front of the next man, John Shippen. Such a win by such a great margin of strokes in 72 holes of medal play, just goes to show how fine a player Ball was. To him goes the credit of being the only golfer to win the National four times.

Also winner of Cooks County Open two years in a row, playing against all white golfers in Chicago. He also played for Chicago in the Public Links Championship was the medalist. No other colored golfer can boast of a much better record than Ball. [partly obscured by an overlapping clipping]

I well remember a great 66 he scored in the final round at Shady Rest, N.J., in the National of '29. It was a round of golf that one dreams about but seldom sees.

**Holds 2 Records**

Denby, ace golf professional and the pride of Asheville, N.C., has two records in golf. First, he was the youngest player to win the National, back in '32, at the age of 19 years; second, his score of 283 for 72 holes the same year, shares record with Marshall. After tying Marshall, he won the playoff, 144 against 147. He was the winner again in '36 and '37, to lay claim as a three-time winner.

Along with Howard Wheeler, who won the National this year, '46, they stand together as the only golfers to date who have the chance to tie Ball's four National wins.

Wheeler, formerly of Atlanta, Ga., now from California, won his first National Open in '33, then again in '38 and '46. A three-time winner. Also won the Southern Open in '37 and the Tuskegee in '39.

McCoy, businessman golfer from NYC, winner of the National Amateur in '31 and runner-up in the National Open in '35, is the only amateur to date to make such a showing. Winner of Labor Day Tournament in '36 at Shady Rest G.C., New Jersey, with a 72-hole score of 67-70-72-72—281—the lowest 72-hole medal score in the Metropolitan District. McCoy retired from competitive golf in '37.

**Rhodes a "First"**

Rhodes, the sensational Nashville, Tenn., product, won the richest colored tournament, "The Joe Louis $2,000 Open," was second in the National Open and led the parade of all-colored in the All-American Open at Chicago.

This, incidentally, was the first time a colored golfer ever finished in the money in this tournament. In spite of the fact that they have been competing in the same since '42, Rhodes's score of 72-73-72-79—296, indeed should be an inspiration to all colored golfers.

Hughes won his first and only National Open in '35 at Lake Mohansic Park Course, Westchester County, N.Y., the toughest and most rugged park course between New York and California. He also won the Joe Louis Open in '45, was third in the National Open of this year.

Hartsfield took the '46 Southern Open with a grand score of 260 for 72 holes, in which he scored a 57 in one round.

Playing in the Joe Louis Open a few years ago, Zeke came back from a rather slow start at 157 for the first 36 holes he had bludgeoned his way into the thick of the battle with a great 69 on the third round. And from this point, he had closed out the day's assault with a still greater 68—137 for 36 holes.

**Great Finish**

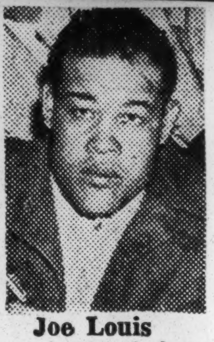
Five under par for the last day of an Open Championship must be registered as one of the finest performances ever entered in the books. It was, without a doubt, the finest last day's double round of golf ever scored in colored tournaments. Sat. 6-7-47

It earned him a tie with the late Calvin Searles, who had scored 294 for second place, two strokes out of first place.

This article couldn't be completed without a few words in regard to my Bermuda boys. With the exception of Llewlyn De Rosa, whom I rated in No. 2 position, Earle Lowe is, without a doubt, the greatest stylist in colored golf, who commands attention anytime he enters tournaments. His brother, George Lowe, is also a stellar linksman.

**Herman Santucci, a great showman,** can, at times, give par the works. To Americans I might say he is just another Howard Wheeler.

Noel (Tip) Smith, though only 19, plays about the best golf of any colored golfer I've seen. Two years ago, at the Belmont Manor, where par is 70, he was a great sensation among caddies when he blazed around this tricky layout in the wee hours of the morning with rounds of 71-70-68-66—275, for 72 hol[...] or 5 under par.



Joe Louis

championship of the Eastern Golf Association tournament at South Park course here Thursday. The Brown Bomber defeated Jacques Isler, New York attorney, for the title. The match ended on the 15th green as Louis established a lead of four up with only three holes left to play. His card showed four strokes over par for the 15 holes.

The women's title went to Hazel Foreman, sharpshooter from Washington, D.C. Mrs. Foreman whipped Lorraine Sawyer, Philadelphia, 3 and 2, in the final match.

Winner of the crown in the open division was Teddy Rhodes, Nashville star, who is defending Joe Louis Open champion, and recent winner of the Texas Open title. Rhodes turned in a card of 283, highlighted by a 3-under-par final round of 69.

Howard Wheeler, Los Angeles was second. Wheeler is 1946 national champion.

# Gary Negroes Invite Whites To Play Golf

Chicago Defender
Chicago Ill.
Sat-8-9-47

GARY—This largest city of the Calumet industrial area, in the spotlight recently when two huge hospitals threw open their doors to Negro physicians, is again in the news, this time with the first annual interracial golf tournament, August 10, sponsored by the Negro tabloid newspaper, the Gary American.

Sponsors of the affair have invited the champion golfers of South Gleason Park, that recreational facility used by whites, to play the champions of North Gleason, Negro park facility.

In addition there will be 27 holes for professionals, 27 for amateurs and 18 holes for women. Local merchants are supporting the plan and contributing the awards which go to the winners in each classification.

Sat-8-9-47

Also expected to attend are the city fathers, headed by liberal Mayor Joseph Finerty.

The sponsors include A. B. Whitlock, chairman; Dr. Leroy Bingham, Thomas Moxley, Mrs. Nettie Armstrong, Bo Mallard and Arnold Wiley.

# Joe Louis Wins Pittsburgh Golf

The Afro-American
Baltimore Md. Sat-8-16-47

PITTSBURGH — Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis won the amateur division

# Wins Central States Golf Crown By One Stroke

Chicago Defender
Chicago Illinois
Sa[...]

By DOWDAL H. DAVIS

DENVER—Little Benny Collier, the ex-caddie from Ft. Worth, now playing from Denver, held on to a lead built up during the early rounds of the 14th annual Central States Golf Tournament to beat out a last-round challenge by Fleming Cody of St. Louis by a single stroke.

Collier went into the final 36 holes with a five-stroke lead over Lejean Clark of Denver as he flashed a first round 75 over the well-trapped, tree-studded Welshire course. The second 18 saw this lead stretched to nine strokes over Fleming Cody and J. C. Wilson of Kansas City as his 78 gave him a 36-hole total of 153 over 162s by his nearest competitors.

Then, as a threatening storm and high winds hampered his style, Collier slipped to an almost disastrous 87 for his last 18.

Playing brilliant golf in the threesome just behind Collier, Cody, in the meanwhile was coming in with a rush, not knowing that Collier had just finished with his highest round of the meet. Cody was on the 480-yard 18th in three with a 15-foot putt for a birdie four and the 78 that would have tied the match.

Only the sound of the wind was heard over the hush of the spectators encircling the final green as Cody lined up a tough, curling, uphill putt on the lightening-fast green. The slender St. Louis player bent over his ball, paused, and stroked the pellet toward the cup, then watched as a putt just edged past the rim and came to rest a foot beyond to give the Midwest's most coveted golf honor to Collier, 240 to 241. Not until then did Cody know how close he had come to an almost miraculous victory.

Sat-8-9-47

**DEFENDING** champion John Estes, Des Moines, found the going a little too tough and finished third with 251, one stroke ahead of Leroy Doty, Kansas City, for the 54-hole affair. J. C. Wilson, Kansas City, and Woody Broussard, Denver, tied for fifth and sixth with 253s.

Ninety of the middle west's ace golfers started in this premier golf event of the season, representing Denver, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Wichita, Des Moines, St. Louis, Omaha and Colorado Springs. Wilshire golf course, scene of the 1947 National Public Links Tournament and one of the toughest in the country, took its first day toll as the championship flight was trimmed to 30 players. Little Ben came through the qualifying round with a 76 to give warning of what was to come. Lejean Clark, Denver, was next with 78, followed by Woody Broussard and Johnnie Jones, Omaha, with 79s. From that point on, each round witnessed the toppling of favorites and the rapid reshuffling for position as pit-like sand-traps, tenacious tree-lined, bristle-tough rough, lakes and brooks, and the constant pressure exacted their price for every error.

In the 36-hole second and third flights, Sidney Frelow, Denver, and Elgin Walker of St. Louis were the respective winners. Runner-up honors in the second flight went to Bob Terrell of St. Louis followed by Mal Scott of Omaha. Charley Griggs of Denver took second place in the third flight followed by U. G. Corum of St. Paul.

Homer Lewis of Des Moines captured the senior division title with Earl Beck of Kansas City and William Mitchell, Wichita, in second and third places.

Kansas City was selected for the 1948 tournament. Officers of the Central States Golf Association elected for the coming year are: Dowdal H. Davis, president; Nathaniel Jordan, St. Louis, and Dr. W. W. Solomon, Omaha, vice-presidents, and D. L. Doty, Kansas City, secretary-treasurer.

# O. D. Alexander Wins First Negro Golf Tournament In Local History; Jeter Loses

Memphis World
Memphis, Tenn.
Tue-8-5-47

The first Negro golf tournament in the history of Memphis came to a dramatic close late Sunday evening, August 2nd, at Lincoln Park.

Before a tense and intent gallery of unexpectedly interested Negro Golf enthusiasts, men, women, and children, O. D. Alexander, a cool and collected golf shop employee of the Memphis Colonial Golf Club, sank a putt that defeated well-known and popular Negro golf pioneer Robert "Bubber" Jeter. Alexander beat Jeter one up on 36 holes to clinch the championship flight in the Sam Qualls Memorial Invitational Golf Tournament

Second flight winners and runners-up were respectively: Henry Benson and William McLin. Benson won by a score of 5 and 3 over a distance of 18 holes.

Third flight winner and runner-up was: Dr. E. G. Mason, of Clarkedale, Miss., who won over Charles White of Memphis by a score of 3 and 2 over 13 holes.

The beautiful Sam Qualls Memorial Trophy was awarded to Alexander at the close of the tournament. It will be his permanent possession provided he is able to have his name inscribed on it three times. Other trophies, consisting of medals, golf balls, shirts, and other tokens were giv[...] to the second and third place pri[...] winners.

Special tribute was paid to S. M. McCoy, outstanding local Negro golf official, Robert Wright, president of the Qualls Golf Association, Dr. H. H. Johnson, official of the Association, Dr. Mason of Clarksdale, and other members of the local golf organization who made the three-week tournament possible. Alexander and Jeter, winners of the tournament will go to Detroit, Mich. on August 18 to compete in the famed Joe Louis tournament against the country's greatest Negro golfers.

**WOMEN**

Hazel Foreman of Washington, D. C., defeated Lorraine Sawyer, Philadelphia, 3 and 2, in finals; Sarah Smith, Washington, defeated Frankie Watkins, Washington, 3 and 2, to win consolation championship; Helen Harris, Washington, defeated Evelyn Watkins, Dayton, Ohio, 4 and 3, to win second flight.

# Courier-Yorkshire Tourney Results

Pittsburgh, Pa.
Pittsburgh Courier
Sat-8-16-47

**PROFESSIONALS**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Ted Rhodes, Nashville, Tenn. | 283 | $750.00 |
| Howard Wheeler, Philadelphia | 292 | 400.00 |
| Bill Brown, Washington | 295 | 158.33 |
| Zeke Hartsfield, Atlanta | 295 | 158.33 |
| Charles Sifford, Philadelphia | 295 | 158.33 |
| Bill Spiller, Los Angeles | 298 | 100.00 |
| Warren Sharrock, Ossing, N. Y. | 300 | 75.00 |
| Clyde Martin, Baltimore | 302 | 60.00 |
| Solomon Hughes, Minneapolis | 303 | 42.50 |
| Willie Mosely, Detroit | 303 | 42.50 |
| Calvin Ingram, Los Angeles | 304 | 27.50 |
| Benny Davis, Detroit | 304 | 27.50 |

**AMATEURS**

Joe Louis, Detroit, defeated Jacques Isler, New York, for championship, 4 and 3; Eddie Mallory, Philadelphia, defeated Frank Jackson, Trenton, N. J., 1 up, for consolation championship; Curtis Lloyd, Dayton, Ohio, defeated George Brundidge, Pittsburgh, 3 and 2, to win first flight; Louis Elley, Pittsburgh, defeated Hayes Taylor, Cleveland, 3 and 2 to win second flight honors.

51h 1947

# THE SPORTS BEAT

Pittsburgh Courier

By WENDELL SMITH

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sat. 8-16-47

## Louis Comes Into Own As a Golfer . . .

Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis came into his own as a golfer here in Pittsburgh last week by blasting his way through a tough field of golfers from every section of the country and winning the Eastern Golf Association Amateur Championship. Louis defeated the "Bearded Wonder," Jacques Isler, a New York attorney, 4 and 3, in the final round to win his first major golf title.

The king of the heavyweights got a great wallop out of winning. He has been trying for a number of years to win a tournament and when he finally struck pay dirt on the fifteenth hole of the tricky South Park course he was all smiles.

In coming through to the finals, Lous had to beat Willie Adams of Baltimore and Judson Grant of Los Angeles. The victory over Adams was won with comparative ease, but Grant provided him plenty of anxious moments. In fact, Louis had to birdie the seventeenth and eighteenth holes to tie the fifty-one-year-old veteran, and then play two extra holes before he qualified for the championship round with Isler.

After it was all over Louis said: "I got a great kick out of winning this tournament. It's the first one I ever won and I'm going to take good care of the big trophy they gave me for winning."

Louis and Isler proved to be a picturesque twosome in the finals, if nothing else. The heavyweight champion towered above the short, sprightly New York lawyer. Bronzed by the summer sun and apparently in the pink of condition, Joe showed a large gallery that he is just as cool on the links as he is in the ring. On the other hand Isler looked liked a man who had just returned from the depths of the jungles. He sported a flourishing beard, wore a battered turned-down hat and smoked a pipe.

## Isler Worked on Their Nerves . . .

The contestants Isler defeated to reach the finals complained that he beat them by taking too much time and being too technical about the rules. They charged that he won only because he tried their nerves throughout the matches and not because he was the better golfer.

"That guy works on your nerves," one of the players Isler beat said. "He stalls around and gets you unnerved. Then when you're upset he goes ahead and wins."

When Louis went out on the tee to face the beard-wearing New Yorker, he had been well coached by friends. "I'm not going to let him get me down," Joe said. "I'm going to take my time, too. I'll get on his nerves."

It is questionable whether Louis wore down Isler or vice versa. Both took their time and did just about as they pleased. But this much is certain—Louis had a definite psychological advantage over the "Bearded Wonder." He gained that advantage by standing on the tee and poking out drives that averaged 250 yards. Isler is small and, naturally, didn't pack the wallop that Joe did. Joe was always far out in front on his drives and Isler found himself pressing time and again on long holes.

As the old saying goes, Isler was never really in the ball game. Going into the thirteenth he was five holes down. They halved the thirteenth and Isler won the fourteenth with a four against Joe's five. The fifteenth was the final hole. Isler found himself in a position where he had to win the last four holes to gain a tie. Louis got a par three and when Isler tried for a birdie and missed, after landing on the green about fifteen feet from the cup, Louis emerged victorious.

The gallery swarmed around him and shook his hand, pounded him on his broad back and begged for the ball he was using. The heavyweight champion was his usual gracious self and went stalking off with the championship in the bag and a broad smile on his deeply tanned face.

Sat-8-16-47

## Rhodes Tops Among Pros . . .

Not since the days when Pat Ball of Chicago was going around winning everybody's tournaments has a golfer come along like Ted Rhodes, winner of the professional tourney. Several years ago, Joe Louis picked Rhodes up in Nashville, Tenn., and hired him as his personal golf tutor. Not only did he get Joe off to a good start in the game, but he kept improving himself. Today he is probably the No. 1 Negro golfer in the country. He has played in three tournaments this year—the Texas Open, Miami View Open in Dayton, Ohio, and The Courier-Yorkshire tourney here in Pittsburgh. He won all three tournaments and now is gunning for top money in Cleveland's Sixth City tournament and the Joe Louis Open.

Here in Pittsburgh he shot a sizzling 283, five under par. The nearest player to him was Howard Wheeler, whose 292 total was nine strokes over Rhodes. If Rhodes comes through in the Cleveland and Detroit tourneys, he will have won approximately $2,500 in five meets. By the time the season ends he has a chance to reach the $4,000 mark, which isn't exactly chicken feed for a year of golf.

Rhodes is a stylist on the links. He plays par golf—or close to it—consistently. He hits a long ball and plays his irons like a champion. At one time he had a tendency to grumble and fret when things went wrong. But he has conquered his temper and consequently his game has improved considerably. In another year he should be able to compete in the big tournaments against the best white golfers and hold his own. He completely dominates the Negro field now. He had practically no competition in The Courier tournament. It was just a matter of completing seventy-two holes and collecting $750 in prize money.

**TYPEWRITER TEE SHOTS . . . Warren Sharrock, the young professional from Ossining, N. Y., couldn't get his drives straightened out and finished seventh . . . All-American News covered the tourney and you'll soon see pictures of the big meet in movies around the country . . . Majority of the contestants left Pittsburgh Friday to compete in Cleveland's Sixth City tourney . . . Marva Louis and the champ's cute little daughter, Jacqueline, followed Papa Joe around and rooted him in to the amateur title.**

# Rhodes Cards Snappy 280 To Retain Joe Louis Open Crown

Atlanta Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Wed. 8-23-47

By RUSS J. COWANS

DETROIT.—(NNPA)—Theodore Rhodes, 33-year-old Nashville pro, not only retained his championship but set a new tournament record last Thursday for the Joe Louis Invitational as he fired a 280 for the 72 holes over the Rackham course, 10 strokes below his mark of 290 which he made in 1946, and eight strokes under par.

The capture of the $1,000 top prize in the three-day $2,500 tournament was the sixth consecutive tourney won by the affable Teddy since last June. He opened the season by winning the Houston Open, won the Chicago Open, finished first in the Miami View Open in Dayton, was first in the Courier-Yorkshire Open, and won the Sixth City Open in Cleveland. He did not compete in the Midwestern Open at Toledo.

Not only did Rhodes take down top prizes in these tourneys, but he fired sub-par golf in most of them. He was five under par in the Pittsburgh tourney, even par in Dayton, and one under in Cleveland, in addition to establishing a new record of 66 for the Seneca Park course.

### HUGHES SETS PACE

Although he fired a two under par Tuesday as the tourney opened, Rhodes had to be content with second place as Solomon Hughes, Minneapolis, 1945 winner of the Louis Invitational, coupled nines of 36 and 32 for a sparkling 68 to take the lead.

Charles Sifford, 23-year old Philadelphian, grabbed the lead Wednesday as he sprinkled five birdies over the 18 holes, collecting three on the first nine and two on the back nine for a 68, giving him 138 for the two days of play.

Wed. 8-23-47

Hughes added a 70 for 140, while Howard Wheeler, Philadelphia, national open champion, was third with 142. Three players were tied at 143 for fourth place. They were Rhodes, Homer Harvey, Jr., Chicago, and Bill Spiller, Los Angeles, 1946 amateur champion.

Sifford soared to 75 on the first 18 holes of the final Thursday and lost the lead to Hughes, who fired a 69. Rhodes shot a four under par 68 to tie Sifford for second place, with Bill Spiller a stroke back of his 69. Wheeler was fourth with 214, and LeRoy Smith, Norfolk, Va., was fifth with 215.

Spiller tied Rhodes for the lead at the end of 54 holes by touring the first nine in 33, notwithstanding the fact that he doubled bogeyed the par five seventh hole. Rhodes had a 33 as he collected two birdies, one bogey and pars on the remaining six holes.

### RHODES TAKES LEAD

Starting the final nine, Rhodes had a birdie on the 465-yard tenth while Spiller was even par. The Los Angeles pro could not make up this deficit, and then blew himself out of the championship by getting bogeys on the sixteenth and seventeenth, finishing with 71.

Rhodes clinched the crown when he sank a 15-foot put on the eighteenth after a beautiful chip shot 10 feet from the green.

In addition to the $1,000, Rhodes gets his second leg on the Hotel Gotham trophy.

### RURAL CLARK NEW AMATEUR CHAMPION

Rural Clark, Los Angeles, defeated Dr. Remus Robinson, Detroit, 2 and 1 on the seventeenth green, to win the amateur crown. Clark had defeated Fleming Cody, St. Louis, 8 and 7, to gain the finals, while Dr. Robinson won from Bill Davis, Detroit, 4 and 2, in the semi-final. Clark was one over par for the distance.

The Louis tournament was the first major tourney Clark had competed in. He is a former caddy from one of the exclusive clubs in Birmingham, Ala., where he was born 23 years ago.

Five of the pros finished the 72 holes under par, while eight bettered the mark of 280 made by Rhodes in 1946.

Here's how the first eleven of the ninety-one pros finished: Rhodes, 280; Spiller, 283; Hughes, 283; Howard Wheeler, 286; Willie Hosley, Detroit, 286; LeRoy Smith, Norfolk, Va., 289; Charles Sifford, Philadelphia, 289; Preston Knowles, New York. 291; Sherry Wellons, Detroit, 291; John Beck Rice, Detroit, 291; Joe Roach, Cocoanut Grove, Fla., 291.

Wed. 8-23-47

Jimmy Clark, Clearwater, Fla., fired the low score of the tournament when he blasted a 66, 33 out and 33 in, to couple with his earlier scores of 74-75-71 for 292.

Louis, after firing 37-35 for an even par 72 Monday to win low medalist honors, was eliminated in the first round Tuesday by Isaac Brown, Washington, D. C., 2 and 1.

# Stroke-by-Stroke With Louis in National Golf

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 9-6-47

By FRANKLIN BROWER

PHILADELPHIA

After topping the amateur qualifiers with three-over par 74, heavyweight boxing champion Joe Louis scored a decisive 6 and 5 victory over Joseph Terry, (Tuesday), in his opening round match at the United Golfers' Association tournament over the Cobbs Creek Course.

Terry conceded defeat after 12 holes of play. Louis had parred on seven holes to pile up a sustantial lead over the local mortician, a member of Fairview Golf Club.

Later in the day Louis advanced to the third round by defeating Henderson Pinkett, also of Fairview, 4-3.

**Likes 1 and 4 Clubs**

Louis used a great variety of clubs in defeating Terry. In teeing off he made predominant use of Nos. 1 and 4 drivers, using the former for the longer distances. Nine of the holes were over 300 yards and two over 500.

On the fourth and 12th holes, which were 150 and 130 yards, respectively, Louis used other types of club, to tee off, getting around 165 yards with a No. 7 iron on the former hole and around 140 with a No. 9 on the shorter one.

**Sinks 10-Footer**

The first hole was 462 yards and Joe went one up on Terry by shooting a par five. He got over 300 yards with a No. 1 driver, reached the putting green in three more tries with a No. 9 iron, and then dropped a 10-foot put, -his longest of the match.

He went two up on his foe at the par-four second hole, which was 300-yards. He got over 200 yards with No. 9 iron, used the same club to reach the putting green and then putted twice, scoring from two feet out.

**Hits Sand Trap**

On the 300-yard third hole, Louis got off a bad drive and went one over par. This was the only hole in which he landed in a sand trap. He used a No. 6 club to get out of it, and chopped the ball to within 15 feet of the hole. He then sank his put on the second try.

Sat. 9-6-47

After his good drive in the fourth hole, Louis got off another poor one on the 400-yard fifth, the ball hitting a tree about 200 yards distant and careening into some deep grass. However, he made a good shot with a No. 9 iron to land near the putting green and went on to shoot par on the hole.

**Good Driving**

Louis also parred on the sixth hole, which was 380 yards. The hole was atop a hill and hidden from the teeing off spot, but Louis got over 200 yards with his drive, reached the putting green with a No. 9 iron in one try and sank his put on the second attempt.

The champ's drive on the seventh hole landed amidst some trees. He belted his way out with No. 1 iron and used No. 7 and 8 irons to reach the putting green. He sank a yard pat for a five on a par-four hole.

On the eighth hole, Louis parred. He covered over half of the 355 yards with a No. 4 driver. He then got one hundred yards with a No. 9 iron, used the same club to reach the green and sank a six-foot put. Sat. 9-6-47

**Misses Par on 9th**

He went one-over-par on the 387-yard ninth hole to give him a three-over-par out total of 39. He used a No. 5 iron to drive the ball 150 yards after his No. 1 driver had gotten a little more than that.

With 30 yards to the putting green he used a No. 7, landed within putting distance and made good on his second try.

**Uses 2 Putts**

The 10th hole was 205 yards, and although Louis got off a good drive with a No. 4 driver, he went over one over par. He used a nine to and on the green from 40 feet out, and then putted twice, sinking a two-foot one.

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Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

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Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.
Sat 12-27-47

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So much golf was bad for Joe in two ways they say, admitting that tramping the fairways did strengthen his legs. Golf, they hold, is detrimental to the hitting muscles. They attribute Joe's inability to fire punches with his former lightning speed and invincible authority to the tightening up of his punching muscles by the different swing used in golf.

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In that connection, it may be pointed out that managers of baseball teams will not allow their hired men to play golf during the baseball season. They advance the same reason—that hitting a stationary target, the golf ball, is bad for a fellow who must swing at a rapidly moving ball.

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# Stroke-by-Stroke With Louis in National Golf

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 9-6-47

By FRANKLIN BROWER

PHILADELPHIA

After topping the amateur qualifiers with three-over par 74, heavyweight boxing champion Joe Louis scored a decisive 6 and 5 victory over Joseph Terry, (Tuesday), in his opening round match at the United Golfers' Association tournament over the Cobbs Creek Course.

Terry conceded defeat after 12 holes of play. Louis had parred on seven holes to pile up a sustantial lead over the local mortician, a member of Fairview Golf Club.

Later in the day Louis advanced to the third round by defeating Henderson Pinkett, also of Fairview, 4-3.

### Likes 1 and 4 Clubs

Louis used a great variety of clubs in defeating Terry. In teeing off he made predominant use of Nos. 1 and 4 drivers, using the former for the longer distances. Nine of the holes were over 300 yards and two over 500.

On the fourth and 12th holes, which were 150 and 130 yards, respectively, Louis used other types of club, to tee off, getting around 165 yards with a No. 7 iron on the former hole and around 140 with a No. 9 on the shorter one.

### Sinks 10-Footer

The first hole was 462 yards and Joe went one up on Terry by shooting a par five. He got over 300 yards with a No. 1 driver, reached the putting green in three more tries with a No. 9 iron, and then dropped a 10-foot put, his longest of the match.

He went two up on his foe at the par-four second hole, which was 300-yards. He got over 200 yards with No. 9 iron, used the same club to reach the putting green and then putted twice, scoring from two feet out.

### Hits Sand Trap

On the 300-yard third hole, Louis got off a bad drive and went one over par. This was the only hole in which he landed in a sand trap. He used a No. 6 club to get out of it, and chopped the ball to within 15 feet of the hole. He then sank his put on the second try. Sat. 9-6-47

After his good drive in the fourth hole, Louis got off another poor one on the 400-yard fifth, the ball hitting a tree about 200 yards distant and careening into some deep grass. However, he made a good shot with a No. 9 iron to land near the putting green and went on to shoot par on the hole.

### Good Driving

Louis also parred on the sixth hole, which was 380 yards. The hole was atop a hill and hidden from the teeing off spot, but Louis got over 200 yards with his drive, reached the putting green with a No. 9 iron in one try and sank his put on the second attempt.

The champ's drive on the seventh hole landed amidst some trees. He belted his way out with No. 1 iron and used No. 7 and 8 irons to reach the putting green. He sank a yard pat for a five on a par-four hole.

On the eighth hole, Louis parred. He covered over half of the 355 yards with a No. 4 driver. He then got one hundred yards with a No. 9 iron, used the same club to reach the green and sank a six-foot put. Sat. 9-6-47

### Misses Par on 9th

He went one-over-par on the 387-yard ninth hole to give him a three-over-par out total of 39. He used a No. 5 iron to drive the ball 150 yards after his No. 1 driver had gotten a little more than that. With 30 yards to the putting green he used a No. 7, landed within putting distance and made good on his second try.

### Uses 2 Putts

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51k 1947

## Gadabouting in Baltimore

# Tennis Championships Enliven Kegee Campus

Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

### with Lula Jones Garrett

Sat. 8-30-47

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — The Ole Gray Mare wasn't what she used to be—speaking, of course, of the championship matches of the American Tennis Association held here last week.

Not that Major Cleve Abbott, official host as well as president of the association, hadn't spread himself in preparations, with courts in top shape and a committee providing the proper entertainment features, and his executive secretary, Bertram Baker, taking over the reigns of the official end. But the meet, this year, had too much competition from other conventions. So while a goodly portion of members planed off to Los Angeles for the medical convention, and the cute young things betook themselves to the various boules, it left a yawning hole in the over-all picture of the tournament. Sat. 8-30-47

One of the earlier arrivals was Marion Jones Powell, wife of the Lake Charles, La. physician, formerly of Boston, who was back on her campus for the meet. She wore striking ensembles, a gray-linen short suit with bra top, being one that caught attention. Up from Bermuda came Alice Scot, who, of course, is an official of the association. She is a psychiatric nurse in Somerset, Bermuda. After the week here, she plans to go to Mt. Vernon, N.Y., for a month.

And a goodly flock of Nassauans were on hand, including Basil North of the Dukes Post Office Savings Department here, Mrs. Audrey North, Edward Isaacs, formerly of the Royal Air Force; Mrs. Olga Bethell, who was scheduled to play in women's singles, but had to default all of her matches because of illness; Mrs. Edward Isaacs, C. F. Lunn, a jeweller of Nassau.

**MEET THE BRANCHES**

Tuesday evening we had a cocktail with Dr. and Mrs. George C. Branche. He's acting manager of the Veteran's Hospital while Dr. T. T. Tildon is away. Mrs. Branche had come down from Boston, where she lives through the college season with their three children, a daughter and two sons, both of whom are following in their father's profession. Dr. Banche is, as you know, one of their country's famed phychiatrists. George Jr., now a med senior, had been at Tuskegee working his father this summer. Mathew Branshe is captain of both tennis and football teams at Bowdoin. James Taylor and Henry M. Michaux of Durham were guests of the Branches that evening.

**WASHINGTONIANS ABOUT**

Dr. and Mrs. Napoleon Rivers came down from Washington, bringing their talented daughters, Gertrude, now a teacher at Cornell, and Charlotte who walked off with sixth place in a class of 320 at Northeast Latin School, this year. Dr. Ellwood Downing motored down in the newest, largest model of the top cars. The Virginia McGriffs, father and son, were about, setting a pace, as usual, in togs. They donned identical new outfits for each match.

**DANCES FEATURED**

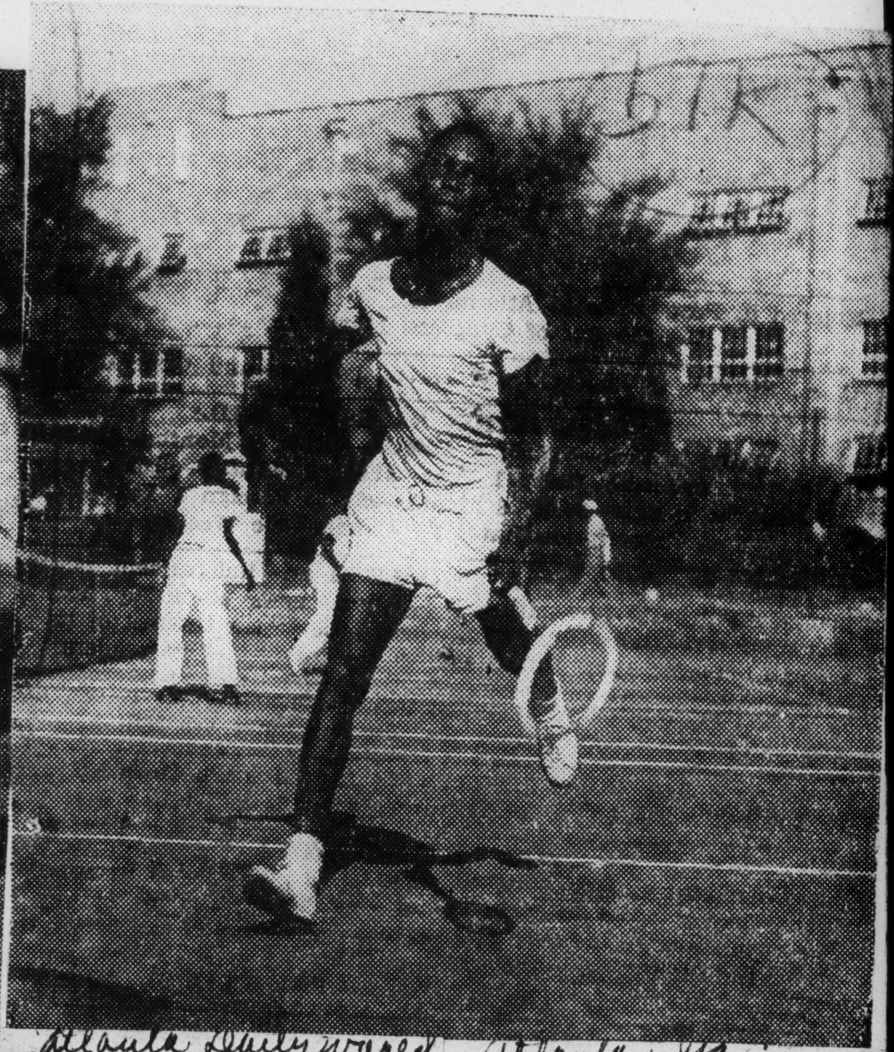
The entertainment committee cooked up a sport dance for Wednesday night, and a formal one for Friday. Both were at the new Propeller Club. The youngsters took over the first, and maybe the heat had a lot to do with many renegging the latter, which was a charming affair. Most fun, though, was jockeying out to the Propeller after hours, routing out the cook and persuading him to fry another batch of chicken. Sat. 8-30-47

And the boys and gals didn't find it too dull at Dorothy Guest House, where officials and some guests were quartered after they had succeeded in getting the curfew hours, no-visiting, no-drinking rules that slapped them flat the first couple of days suspended. Dr. Whirlwind Johnon, of Lynchburg, Va., who had been making tournaments with a bunch of young players under his wing, including the new women's singles champion, Althea Gibson, held open house. Talked much of his round robins, to which most of us will be scooting on Labor Day.

Ran into scores, including Claude Barnett of ANP, George Cox, Durham, N.C. banker, the Arthur Chippeys of Raleigh, at the breakfast party President Patterson of Tuskegee gave in honor of officers of ATA at his cottage, Saturday morning, where, before bacon, eggs, coffee and rolls, guests played games and chatted. Sat. 8-30-47

Atlanta Daily World

Althea Gibson, Wilmington, N. C. is pictured with Mary Hardiwicke, former British champion, before their exhibition match at the ATA tennis meet at Tuskegee Institute. In the finals of the 1947 women's singles match, Miss Gibson downed favored Roumania Peters of Tuskegee Institute, 7-5, 6-0 to become the number one women's singles player in America. Atlanta, Ga. Wed. 8-23-47



Atlanta Daily World, Atlanta, Ga.

George Stewart of the Republic of Panama won the American Tennis singles last week at Tuskegee Institute. His sizzling serves and breath taking returns overwhelmed Lloyd Scott of Prairie View, 6-1; 6-2; 6-2. Stewart later teamed with Ora Washington of Philadelphia to win the mixed doubles crown. Wed. 8-23-47

As a guest in Atlanta, following the ATA meet, Stewart gave two flawless exhibitions at the Washington Park Recreational Area Tennis courts. His final U. S. appearances will be at South Carolina State and Lynchburg, Va., where the Virginia Round Robin Tennis Tournament will be in progress.

# THROUGH THE YEARS

**By FAY YOUNG**

Chicago Defender, Chicago, Ill.

**MISS ALTHEA GIBSON** won the national women's singles tennis championship at Tuskegee Institute last Saturday afternoon by upsetting the dope when she defeated Miss Roumania Peters of Tuskegee in straight sets, 7-5, 6-0. Miss Gibson was runnerup to Miss Peters at Wilberforce last year. 51K Sat. 8-30-47

Miss Gibson plays tennis because she likes to play tennis and every moment she can spare is spent on the tennis court. The 19-year-old Wilmington, N. C., high school senior has won seven sectional championships this season and the national title. She is champion of the Missouri Valley, the Mid-western, the North Carolina, Washington Open, Philadelphia and Pennsylvania Open and the New Jersey Open.

She won the New York City Public Parks paddle tennis championship in 1940. After watching her play in 1941, Buddy Walker, the band leader, gave her a tennis racquet. She won the New York State girls championship in 1941. The Cosmopolitan Tennis club of New York City took an interest in her and sent her to the national meet of the American Tennis Association which was held in Lincoln University, Chester County, Penn., that year. She lost in the semifinals.

FAY YOUNG

Miss Gibson won the New York State and the national girls singles championships in 1942, 1943, 1944 and 1945. In 1946 she went into the women's division. She is destined to go places in the tennis world—but only if she keeps both feet on the ground and doesn't "lose" her head.

* * *

**IN AN EXHIBITION MATCH** with Mary Hardwick Hare, wife of the former British Davis cup player, Miss Gibson led the white woman, 4-0. Then she got "cute" and proceeded to "hand" Mrs. Hare 26 points by erratic play. Miss Junior, a Philadelphia teacher, who has given many of the best years of her life to tennis and the American Tennis Association, in an effort to help Miss Gibson took her aside after the exhibition which Miss Gibson lost 6-4, and attempted to show the young lady her weakness.

Wow! We walked by in time to hear Miss Junior say, "I only thought I was helping you young lady. I took the point score down to point out your faults believing you would correct them but all I get is a bawling out. You don't want to be told—and I shall never tell you anything in the future."

We felt very sorry for Miss Junior. What the Quaker City school teacher doesn't understand is that most youngsters resent constructive criticism in any form, they refuse to respect age and six months at any endeavor they believe they know more about it than men or women with three and four decades of experience. Gratitude is something they were never taught at home.

* * Sat. 8-30-47

**AS A YOUNG WOMAN** Miss Gibson has much to learn. She may be sponsored in the various tournaments by Dr. R. W. Johnson of Lynchburg, Va., and Dr. Eaton of Wilmington, N. C., but all the money these two men can muster will not make her a lovable and worthwhile champion if Miss Gibson doesn't start right now to learn that role.

We were terribly sorry to see her get off on the wrong foot. But she did—not only with Miss Junior but with many others who found out about the incident.

# Hot Action in Round Robin Net Play; 2 Teams Tie for Honors

51K Baltimore, Md.

LYNCHBURY, Va. — The Recreation Club sponsored its fifth Invitational Round Robin Mens' double tournament on Dr. R. "Whirlwind" Johnson's new tennis court August 29 to September 1. There were eight national champions playing, though George Stewart, of Panama, 1947 singles titlest, and mixed doubles champion and Carl Williams, Orangeburg, S.C., along with Lewis and Rhodes of Orangeburg, were not allowed to compete because of their late arrivals. 9-13-47

This tournament was more fiercely contested than any previous tourney and ended with a tie for first and second places. Every team was whipped at least once. The winners were Sam Hutcherson and W. L. Cooke, Lynchburg and Durham; Louis Graves and "Flip" Jackson of Washington, each team winning ten (10) matches and losing one.

**Runner-Up Tie**

Second place honors were divided between John Chandler and Chuck Jones of Fanwood, N.J., and NYC., and Dr. Hubert Eaton and Nathaniel Jackson, Wilmington, N.C., with nine (9) winners each and two losses. Sat.

The third place team was Dr. E.D. Downing and Melvin Pawley of Roanoke, Va., with eight (8) wins and three (3) defeats. The only other teams to play above .500 average were "Babe" Jones and Dr. R. W. Johnson of Baltimore and Lynchburg; McGriff and McGriff of Portsmouth, Va.

Large trophies were awarded the first four winners. The Bishop Plummer Trophy had a narrow escape but was not awarded because of the tie for first place and this year for the first time two teams' names will be inscribed as co-winners. 9-13-47

# Upset Scott And Peters In Finals

Atlanta Daily World Ga. 8-26-47 Tues. 51K

**By MARION E. JACKSON**

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala. —(SNS)— A highly-rated pair of upstarts George Stewart and Althea Gibson upset the dope bucket and won the American Tennis Association 1947 singles crowns in the men and women divisions, as the 30th annual renewal of the ATA tennis extravaganza climaxed here Saturday.

The wizardy of George Stewart's devastating serves and sensational smashes bowled over favored Lloyd Scott of Prairie View, Texas, 6-1, 6-2, 6-2, while Althea Gibson crushed Roumania Peters, 7-5, 6-0, to win easily in the singles finals of the 1947 edition of the matches.

The sensational and commanding play of the young racquet-wielders won the unanimous approval of a jam-packed gallery of spectators who watched lighting-paced returns and sizzling elusiveness of Stewart's and Gibson's serves, completely baffle the 1946 champions, who were rattled by the fury of this year's play. Miss Gibson showed complete mastery of Roumania Peters throughout their match and the verdict was never in doubt. She showed that her last week's win at the Indianapolis open was no fluke. Miss Peters, 1946 champion, while starting masterfully wilted under the blistering competition, the winner offered her.

Lloyd Scott, who was expected to be king this year due to the absence of Jimmy McDaniel, who couldn't leave his job at Lockheed was equally as helpless against Stewart, who carries the ATA crown, back to the Republic of Panama.

In the men's doubles, John Chandler, Fanwood, N. J. and Harold Mitchell Oakland, Calif., defeated Lloyd Scott and Leon Woods of Prairie View, 6-2, 6-3, 6-2.

In the women's doubles, Roumania and Margaret Peters, rammed their way through Doris Miles, Englewood, N. J. and Ora Washington, Philadelphia, Pa. 5-7, 6-0, 6-2.

It was simply George Stewart's day even in the mixed doubles. The matchless net star teamed with Ora Washington to whip Dr. W. L. Whirlwind Johnson, Lynchburg, Va. and Althea Wilson, Wilmington, N. C., 6-4, 3-6, 6-1.

8-26-47 Tues.

In the junior singles, Clyde Freeman, of the tennis-smart Freeman family of Washington, D. C., came from behind to down Wilbert Davis of New York City, 3-6, 6-1, 6-3, 6-1. Davis got off to a flying start but withered as the game proceeded down the stretch!

# Mother Freeman And Her Five Sons In Net Tourney

Chicago Defender Chicago, Ill. 51K

**By MARION E. JACKSON**

TUSKEGEE, Ala.— (NNPA) — The Freemans of Washington, D. C., are the number one tennis family in sepia America. This family boasts of five ranking national players. Three are national American Tennis Association champions and one a runner-up for 1947 boys' singles honors. Sat. 8-30-47

Three of the tennis-playing Freeman boys attended Dunbar high school, Washington, D. C., while a third, national singles champion Clyde Freeman, is a first-year student at Howard university.

The five Freeman tennis stars—Clyde, Thomas, Howard, Harold, and their tennis-playing mother, Mrs. Lucile Freeman—were the most discussed tennis quintet at the 30th annual tennis championships of the American Tennis Association.

Clyde Freeman, who is the most spectacular of the quintet, also is the most gifted player. Long, handsome and wizardlike workman with a racquet, he showed his form during the week-long tennis event by repeatedly coming from behind to win impressively over outstanding foes.

* * *

**CLYDE FREEMAN IS** the repeating national junior singles champion. He was the lone player to leave the meet with his crown intact. In the finals at the ATA meet he surrendered the first set to Wilbert Davis of New York City, then turned the heat on his second-seeded rival to win 3-6, 6-1, 3-6, 6-3, 6-1.

Paired with his brother, Thomas Freeman, Clyde Freeman showed rare generalship to slash down George Lewis, Miami, Fla., and Gerald Clark, Tuskegee Institute 6-2, 6-1, 6-1, for the junior doubles title.

Mrs. Lucile Freeman demonstrated her tennis-talent by appearing in the women's veterans' matches and the mixed doubles. She was eliminated during the first round, but she verified the fact that all members of the family have skill when tossed on the clay courts. Sat. 8-30-47

Harold Freeman played in the finals of the national boys' singles losing to James Thompkins, Brooklyn, N. Y., 6-0, 6-3.

Next year the ATA will advance Clyde Freeman to the men's singles. He has a long way to go before reaching the top in this field, but he'll give the ranking players plenty of trouble as he continues to develop.

Tennis runs in the Freeman family and national champions will come out of Washington, D. C., for a long time.

51k 1947

# Thornton, McDaniels win mixed doubles in hard fight

Tribune, Los Angeles, Calif. Sat. 9-13-47

Jimmy McDaniels, defending champion, smashed through the steady, easy-does-it game of Robert Ryland to win the men's singles of Angel City Racquet club's Pacific coast championships at Ross Snyder playground last Sunday afternoon. Contrary to expectations, Ryland's unruffled, mechanical style failed to turn back McDaniels in any set. His hard-driving game won handily in straight sets, 6-0, 6-4, 6-3.

Best of the day's play came, unexpectedly, in the finals of the men's doubles, in which McDaniels and Slick Stocks sweated through some brilliant returns to defeat Theodore Stoglin and F. Johnson, 8-6, 6-2 Stoglin's presistently perfect lobbing and his sensational returns against McDaniel's smashes (several from adjacent courts) kept the first set a touch & go affair all the way. On the whole, Johnson gave solid support at the net, but got over-anxious as the match progressed, which made it easier for McDaniels and Stocks in the game set.

Sat. 9-13-47

**McDaniels and Stocks breezed through L. Simmons and Ryland, 6-0, 6-1, in the semi final round, but Stoglin and Johnson got some sound competition from C. Fisher and E. Salisbury, finally defeating them, 6-4, 8-6, in one of the most even-up matches of the tournament.**

The mixed doubles was a hard-fought tiff from opening to game point, although the score didn't show it. Eoline Thornton and McDaniels won, 6-2, 6-2, over Stocks and Elyse Thornton, but won the hard way, having to take almost every game from a duece point see-saw.

In the quarter finals, Stocks and Thornton defeated Tina Qualls and Wyman Thomas, 6-0, 6-0; DcDaniels and Thornton breezed through L. Simmons and C. Ramirez, 6-2, 6-1. In the semi final rounds Stocks and Elyse Thornton defeated W. Lewis and C. Lewis handily, 6-2, 6-1; and McDaniels and Thornton were stretched out in the best match of the play by Gwen McDaniels and Ryland, 6-1, 11-9.

Eoline Thornton and Tina Qualls were hard put to take the women's doubles crown, but finally won over Elyse Thornton and Jeanette Washington, 3-6, 9-7, 6-2. The going was nip & tuck through to match point.

Eoline Thornton won the women's singles the Sunday before in the only finals match completed. She defeated Elyse Thornton for the title.

Following the tournament trophies were presented by Frank Pauline and Mrs. Josephine Brown, former secretary of Pacific Coast Tennis and longtime patron of westcoast tennis.

Sat. 9-13-47

**Last week's TRIBUNE story on the Pacific Coast tournament erroneously named Vince Monroe Townsend, Jr., as American Tennis Ass'n's westcoast representative and official and Angel City's business manager. It was an inadvertence. Mr. Vincent S. Holland holds the positions and has done excellently at them.**

# MARION JACKSON'S. -SPORTS NEWS - REEL

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala.—(SNS) — The nation's top tennis players gave the sport a shot in the arm last week at Tuskegee Institute. They showed several thousand fans how good tennis should be played. The setting was the 30th Annual Tennis Tournament of the American Tennis Association where the ranking racquet wielders of the U. S. A. did their stuff in an impressive fashion for the appreciative spectators that flocked to the matches.

The perfect showmanship of the net stars will prove a shot in the arm for the sport. More fans should be attracted to the sport as participants and spectators. Tennis, perhaps, through this medium will come back to the South, as a major sport.

There was keen, sharp, razor-edged competition in the ATA championships, there. There were no set-ups. The players performed for keeps. The net stars played because they wanted to win, and if they didn't it was not the lack of trying.

**The ATA tournament shows that of all the sports, tennis manifests the greatest sportsmanship and goodwill. Win or lose, there was no temperament, anger, or flare-up. There was a handshake for the opponent as well as the officials at the conclusion of each match. Added to this the losing performer, demonstrated his acknowledgement of a superior opponent, by enthusiastic pats on the back, and cheery words of congratulations.**

**TENNIS TRIVIA**

A one-armed tennis player, Fred Johnson, of New York City, was a tournament sensation. He advanced to the 4th round of the veterans' singles . . . A. W. Munford, head coach of Southern University, was present at the meet He brought along, George Bynum, who was line and basketball coach at Prairie View last year. Bynum, will work at Southern University, this season. He will be the new line coach there

**New York's tennis delegation insists that they will try to break the color bar at Forest Hills, next year. Richard Cohen sepia Gotham public parks champion will ask the United States Lawn Tennis Association, for membership . . . Ora Washington, 8 times national singles champion did not participate in the 1947 ATA singles on the request of the group . . . Two British net stars gave exhibitions during the ATA nation championship matches. They were Mary Hardwicke and Charles Hare.**

The 1948 ATA national championship matches will be held at South Carolina College, Orangeburg S. C. The decision to hold the meet at South Carolina State means that the meet will spend its second year in the Southland . . .

**TENNIS NEWS-REEL**

Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri, W. Virginia and Tennessee, failed to have any organizational or public park representation, outside of the collegeiate field

**Tennis-playing families gave the ATA meet its largest representation. Clyde, Thomas, Harold, Howard and Matilda Freeman of Washington, D. C., were the largest family unit competing in the meet . . . Tennis fans huddled around radios Friday night trying to hear the Chicago Bears-All Star game in Chicago. There was much cheering when the College All-Stars came through with a resounding 16-0 victory over the mighty Bears.**

**SOCIETY IN SPORTS . . .**

President Frederick Douglass Patterson of Tuskegee Institute entertained some of the visitors on hand for th ATA Tennis Meet at his farm with a gala breakfast. Among those were Mrs. Lula Garrett, Baltimore Afro-American news paper; Fay Young, sports editor, the Chicago Defender; Claude Barnett, the Associated Negro Press; George W Cox, Sr., North Carolina Mutual Insurance Company; Bertram L Baker, executive secretary of ATA; Mrs. Alice Peters Branch, Washington, D C; Carl Jenkins, department of arts and sciences, Wilberforce University; Dr Elwood Downing, Roanoke, Va.; Arthur Chippel, ATA secretary; Roumania Peters, national singles champion of the ATA; Cleve Abbott, dean of Southern Football coaches; John L. McGriff, prominent physician of Portmouth, Va., B. T. Harvey, of Morehouse College and Joseph D. McGhee, of South Carolina State College and a galaxy of big name tennis fans.

**TENNIS IN THE NEWS:**

**The ATA sanctions 24 tournaments during the summer season comprising June, July and August . . . New York boasted largest delegation of tennis fans. The Gotham tennis addicts move in by special train There is a great deal of work required to put on a national championship tournament. There must be a minimum of ten courts. Tuskegee Institute provided twelve. Ten of these courts were going at ful blast during most of the meet . . . Officials calling the plays took the greatest beating from that sweltering Alabama sun. Seated in those high observation chairs from which they called the matches gave the sun a chance to bake them. It did!!!!! Heroes of the ATA meet were those little boys who recovered the balls for the players. Dressed in natty white uniforms, the boys did an inspired job of keeping the matches moving at a lighting-gaited pace . . . Ice cream vendors and pop salesmen did a landslide business . . .**

A flock of court attendants did a perfect job in keeping the courts marked. The lines were perfect throughout the tournament, and when the least bit roughed new markings would be added. Coach Cleve Abbott deserves a hand for the efficiency in which the matches moved. Since more than 150 participants were registered for the week-long meet, it was necessary to avoid as much conufsion and delay as possible. ATA officials handled the tournament matches well.

**Spectators witnessing the national championship tournament of the ATA, were the most restrained, dignified and well-mannered group of any we have seen at a major sports attraction.**

**There were polite, even, and orderly applause, but no loud, raucous or strident cheers. Conversation was even-tempered and quiet.**

**The conduct of these sports fans tops anything I have ever witnessed, North or South. Perhaps the carriage trade and blue-bloods, have taken over tennis as a sport.**

# George Stewart, Panama, And Althea Gibson Win Nat'l Net Titles

Chicago Defender, Sat. 8-30-47

TUSKEGEE, Ala.— George Stewart, the 24-year-old clerk of Panama City, Panama, playing brilliant and steady tennis, won the finals of the men's singles in the 30th annual national championships of the American Tennis Association on Saturday afternoon on the courts of Tuskegee Institute and before a colorful and appreciative crowd of players and tennis fans from all sections of this country, Bermuda, Nassau and Panama.

Stewart, a left handed racquet wielder with plenty of stamina defeated Lloyd Scott of Prairie View State College, Texas, in straight sets, 6-1, 6-2, 6-2. Scott, two times former national champion and runnerup to Jimmy McDaniel of California last year at Wilberforce university in the 1946 national championship, falted under the cross court fire of the Pan-

ama ace and at times failed to take advantage of his chances to "kill." He would return the ball to Stewart who oftimes didn't have to move but a few steps.

Scott was not up to his usual game in this match according to those who have followed the Texan a number of years. True he had played Stewart last year and had disposed him in the semi-finals at Wilberforce but Saturday was not Scott's day. Sat. 8-31-47

**STEWART WON THE** first game of the championship match allowing Scott to score but one point. In the second game, Scott reached 30 all but that was as far as he got. The third game was deuced three times before Stewart triumphed by making Scott error once then caught him out of position to rifle a shot near the foul line on the back of the court and Scott was caught flat-footed and couldn't get any where near the perfect placement.

The fourth game was deuced before Stewart won it. The fifth game went to Scott after it had been deuced four times and that was the only game that Scott won in the first set. The sixth game was Stewart's after being deuced once and the sixth game and set was the Panama player's with Scott getting two points.

Scott took games five and six in the second set, game five being deuced three times and game six being deuced twice. Stewart won this set, 6-2. He was victor in a three-deuced game number four and a two-deuced game number seven. Only one game was deuced in the third set and that the third one which Stewart won.

In the semifinals, Stewart turned back Mitchell 9-7, 7-5, 6-0. Scott had to extend himself to get rid of Louis Graves. The scores were 6-4, 8-6, 5-7, 6-1.

Stewart took a year's leave of absence from his job in Panama City and has devoted his entire time to playing tennis. He was determined to win the national championship in America and his determination bore fruit.

Jimmy McDaniel, 1946 national champion did not defend his title. McDaniel also was champion in 1939, 1940 and 1941. Scott was champion in 1944 and 1945.

Sat. 8-30-47

**AN UPSET OCCURRED** in the women's singles. Miss Roumania Peters, Tuskegee Institute, was dethroned as national women's champion by 19-year-old Althea Gibson, formerly of New York City but now of Wilmington, N. C. Runnerup to Miss Peters last year at Wilberforce, Miss Gibson was out for revenge.

The veteran Miss Peters took the first game with Miss Gibson serving. The Tuskegeean didn't allow the high school senior a point. Gibson tied the count one all by annexing the second game. The score of game went to two all, then Miss Peters forged to the front, 3-2. She led 4-3, 5-4, the sixth game being deuced four times before Miss Gibson took it. Miss Gibson rallied to win the 10th game and deuce the set 5-all. Miss Gibson won game 11 and 12 with Miss Peters getting only two points in each of these games.

The second set started out like there was still some championship timber in the Tuskegee player. Miss Gibson won the first game but only after the score had been deuced four times by Miss Peters. Miss Gibson won the second game but Miss Peters deuced it twice before losing.

Then the better all around play of Miss Gibson began to show. Her volleys and strokes were all that could be expected of a champion. She won the next four games allowing Miss Peters only two points per game and the set and the championship was Miss Gibson's, 6-0.

**CHAMPION — Miss Althea Gibson, who took the National Women's Singles championship crown by defeating Miss Roumania Peters, 6-2, 6-0. Miss Gibson is from Wilmington, N. C.**

**THE MEN'S DOUBLE** championship was won by John Chandler, Plainfield, N. J., and Harold Mitchell, Oakland, Calif., who defeated Lloyd Scott, Prairie View, Texas, and Leon Woods, Prairie View, Texas, 6-2, 6-3, 6-2.

Miss Roumania Peters and her sister, Margaret, retained their women's doubles championship by defeating Ora Washington, Philadelphia, and Doris Myles, Englewood, N. J., 5-7, 6-0, 6-2.

George Stewart, Panama, and Ora Washington, former national women's singles champion of Philadelphia, won the mixed doubles championship from Dr. R. W. "Whirlwind" Johnson, former Lincoln university of Pennsylvania grid star and now of Lynchburg, Va., and Althea Gibson, Wilmington, N. C., 6-4, 3-6, 6-1.

John B. Garrett, Tuskegee Institute, Ala., won the veteran's singles title from Dr. Elwood Downing, Roanoke, Va., 7-5, 6-3.

Mrs. Blanche Winston, New York City, defeated Loretta Pollard, Chicago, for the veteran women's singles, 6-3, 6-0.

Girls singles championship was won by Miss Wilma McGhee, Chattanooga, Tenn., from Miss Muriel Walden, Detroit, 6-4, 6-4.

Clyde Freeman, Washington, D. C., copped the junior singles championship by defeating Wilbur Davis, New York City, 3-6, 6-1, 3-6, 6-3, 6-1.

James Tompkins, Brooklyn, N. Y., defeated Harold Freeman, Washington, D. C., 6-0, 6-3 for the boys' singles national title.

The Intercollegiate national championship went to Carl Williams, Howard university, Washington, D. C., when he defeated Francis Powell, Tuskegee Institute, 2-6, 6-3, 4-6, 6-2, 6-0. Powell is the young man who forced Lloyd Scott to come from behind and extend himself in the three-hour quarterfinal match in the men's singles. Scott finally won, 6-5, 5-7, 10-8.

Rain halted the play Monday afternoon, Aug. 18, the opening day of the meet after several matches had been played.

Upsets started early. Mrs. Martha Davis, Elizabeth, N. J., turned back Anna Showers, seeded number one player from Brooklyn, N. Y., in the women's singles on Wednesday creating a big surprise. Joyce Cook, Durham, N. C., defending champion in the girls singles, was defeated by Wilma McGhee, Chattanooga, 6-2, 6-0, on Wednesday in another big upset.

Champions from various sections fell by the wayside during the week's play.

Robert Bennett, Chicago, lost in the second round. Maceo Hill, Columbus, Ohio, put Dr. John L. McGriff out in that round. Sat. 8-30-47

**DR. REGINALD WEIR**, New York City, former national champion, lost to Harold Mitchell, Oakland, Calif., in the quarterfinals Louis Graves, Detroit, defeated John Chandler of New Jersey in the quarterfinals. Howard Minnis, Southern university, Scotlandville, La., was unable to solve George Stewart's left hand and the Panama player won his quarterfinal match, 6-2, 6-2. Lloyd Scott turned back Tuskegee Institute's Nathaniel Jackson in the quarterfinals, 6-4, 6-1.

Edward Bouey, Southern university, was handicapped by an injury to his arm received in the Missouri Valley Open in Kansas City, Mo., and went out in the fourth round, 6-2, 6-4, at the hands of Nathaniel Jackson of Tuskegee Institute. Detbert Russell, Detroit, stumbled into George Stewart in the fourth round and lost, 6-3, 6-2.

The social events were highlighted by the formal dance at the Pilots' club and an open air breakfast served on the country estate of Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute who played host to the officers of the American Tennis Association, visiting players and newspaper folk among whom was Claude Barnett, Chicago, president of the Negro Associated Press and who has recently returned from a trip to Africa.

An exhibition match was played Mrs. Mary Hardwick Hare, wife of Charles Hare, a former member of the British Davis cup team, and Miss Althea Gibson. Miss Gibson led 4-0 at which time she decided to pay too much attention to the gallery and Miss Hardwick won the set, 6-4. Miss Gibson handed the English woman 26 points on errors.

Hare defeated Jack Points, Wilberforce, Ohio, in an exhibition match, 6-0.

Mr. and Mrs. Hare defeated Miss Roumania Peters, Tuskegee, and Dr. Hubert Eaton, Wilmington, N. C., 6-3, in a mixed doubles exhibition.

# S. C. State Net Star in Peruvian Matches

**ORANGEBURG, S. C.—President M. F. Whittaker, South Carolina State A. and M. College, granted permission to George Stewart, State College freshman, at the request of Comite Nacional Olimpico, Republica De Panama, (The National Olympic Committee of the Republic of Panama) to represent Panama as the best qualified player in tennis in that country in the "2th Juegos Bolivarianos" (Bolivian games), which take place in Lima, Peru, in December.**

**An official from Panama wrote: "George Stewart is rated within our country as the best qualified tennis player. In fact, this gentleman is at present our National Champion."** 12-6-47

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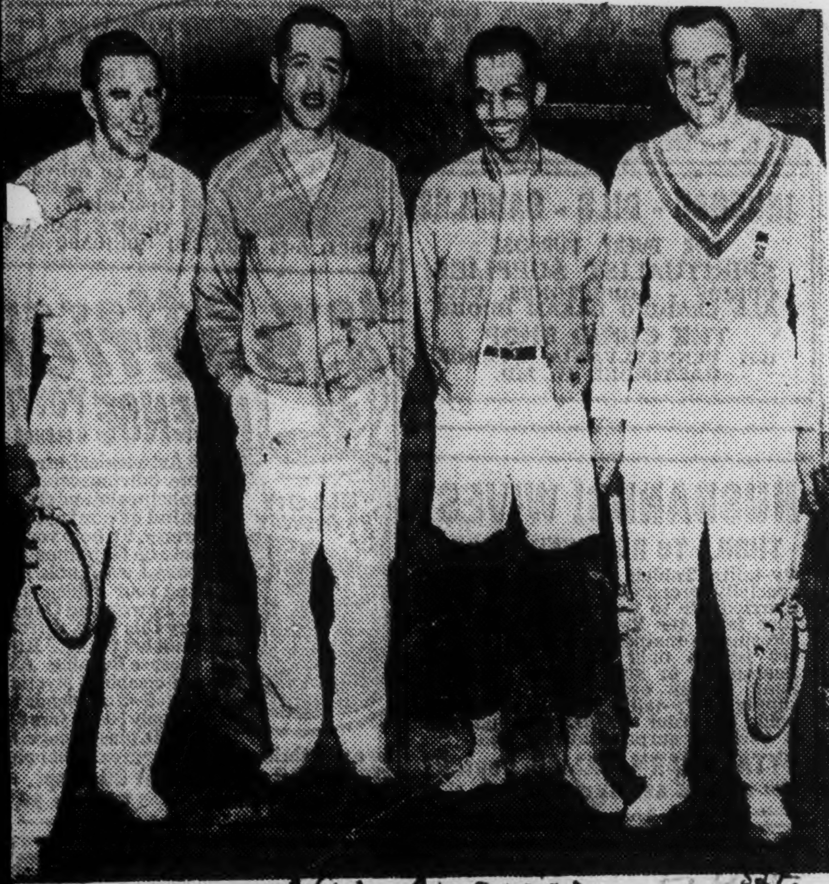


Afro-American Sat. 4-19-47 Baltimore, Md.

**NET ACES HONOR**—Ranking tennis players of the nation appeared in an exhibition at the private courts of Dr. Hubert Eaton, Wilmington, N.C., Easter Sunday, when Fred Perry, white, former British and American open tennis champion, defeated Johnny Hendricks, white, pro instructor, in a special match, but later teamed with Dr. Eaton and lost to Hendricks and Nat Jackson, former ATA champ, 6-4, 2-6, 6-3. Left to right above: Hendricks, Dr. Eaton, Jackson and Perry.

# McDaniel, Peters Top Nation's Net Lists

Afro-American Sat. 2-22-47 Baltimore, Md.

## Californian Also at Top in Doubles; D.C. Brothers Star

RALEIGH, N.C. — Jimmy McDaniel of Los Angeles, Cal., and Roumania Peters of Tuskegee Institute, Ala., received top rankings in the men's and women's divisions in annual ratings of tennis players, released early this week by the American Tennis Association.

The 1946 ratings were released by Arthur P. Chippey, ATA secretary. They follow:

**MEN'S SINGLES**

1. Jimmie McDaniel, Los Angeles, Calif.
2. Lloyd Scott, Prairie View, Tex.
3. George Stewart, Philadelphia, Pa.
4. Dr. Reginald Weir, New York, N.Y.
5. Richard N. Cohen, Plainfield, N.J.
6. Louis Graves, New York, N.Y.
7. Robert Ryland, Detroit, Mich.
8. James Stocks, Pasadena, Calif.
9. Donald Ellis, Brooklyn, N.Y.
10. Nathaniel Jackson, Wilmington, N.C.

**WOMEN'S SINGLES**

1. Roumania Peters, Tuskegee, Ala.
2. Althea Gibson, New York, N.Y.
3. Lillian Van Buren, Detroit, Mich.
4. Flora L. Sullivan, Detroit, Mich.
5. Nana Davis, Elizabeth, N.J.
6. Myrtle Beavers, New York, N.Y.
7. S. Lavinia Moore, Detroit, Mich.
8. Margaret Peters, Tuskegee, Ala.
9. Eleese Thornton, Los Angeles, Calif. Sat. 2-22-47
10. Elizabeth Stanfield, Indianapolis, Ind.

**MEN'S DOUBLES**

1. James L. Stocks and Jimmie McDaniel, Pasadena and Los Angeles, Calif.
2. Lloyd Scott and Louis Graves, Prairie View, Tex., and New York City.
3. Quentin H. Vaughan and Carlton Ashby, Brooklyn, N.Y.
4. Dr. Reginald Weir and Jack Points, New York and Wilberforce, Ohio.
5. John Chandler and Charles Jones, Fanwood, N.J., and New York City.

**WOMEN'S SINGLES**

1. Margaret and Roumania Peters, Tuskegee, Ala.
2. Frances Gittens and Myrtle Beavers, Brooklyn and New York, N.Y.
3. Eoline and Eleese Thornton, Los Angeles, Calif.
4. Anita Gant and Ora Washington, Washington, D.C., and Philadelphia, Pa.
5. Jessie Abbott and Mildred Brown, Tuskegee, Ala.

**JUNIOR DOUBLES**

1. Clyde and Thomas Freeman, Washington, D.C.
2. Hilton Davis and Maynard Clark Jr., Elizabeth and Newark, N.J.
3. Wilbert Davis and Asa Anderson Jr., New York, N.Y. and Philadelphia, Pa.
4. Gerald Clark and George Lewis, Tuskegee, Ala. and Miami, Fla.
5. James Solomon and Booker T. Hardeway, Prairie View, Tex.

**JUNIOR SINGLES**

1. Clyde Freeman, Washington, D.C.
2. Hilton Davis, Elizabeth, N.J.
3. Maynard Clark Jr., Newark, N.J.
4. Wilbert Davis, New York, N.Y.
5. Melvin A. Johnson Jr., Wilberforce, Ohio.

**GIRLS' SINGLES**

1. Gwendolyn Whitting, New York.
2. Joyce R. Cook, Durham, N.C.
3. Shirley Freeman, Springfield, Mass.
4. Jean Stridiron, New York City.
5. Dorothy Ross, New York City.

**BOYS' SINGLES**

1. Thomas Freeman, Washington, D.C. Sat. 2-22-47
2. George Lewis, Miami, Fla.
3. Harold Freeman, Washington, D.C.
4. Earl L. Woods, Chattanooga, Tenn.
5. Nathan T. Garrett, Durham, N.C.

**MIXED DOUBLES**

1. Ora Washington and George Stewart, Philadelphia, Pa.
2. Lillian Van Buren and Delbert Russell, Detroit, Mich.
3. Eoline Thornton and John Chandler, Los Angeles, Calif. and Fanwood, N.J.
4. Nana Davis and Robert Ryland, Elizabeth, N.J., and Detroit, Mich.
5. Ethel Freeman and William Jones, Baltimore, Md.

**VETERANS' SINGLES**

1. John B. Garrett, Tuskegee, Ala.
2. Dr. Ellwood Downing, Roanoke, Va.
3. Naaman D. Henson, Philadelphia, Pa.
4. Fred Johnson, New York, N.Y.
5. Dr. C. W. Furlonge, Smithfield, N.C.

# ATA Approves '47 Net Tournaments

Afro-American

ELIZABETH, N.J. — Officially sanctioned tournaments of the American Tennis Association were announced this week by Bravell M. Nesbitt, sanction committee chairman. Baltimore, Md.

National championships will be held at Tuskegee Institute Aug. 18-23, and will highlight the 1947 schedule.

Applications for sanction that have been received and approved up to an including June 2, and remain to be played, are as follow: Sat. 6-28-47

**North Carolina Association (Open)—Algonquin Club Courts, Durham, N.C. — June 23-27.**

**New England Tennis Assoc. (Open)—Yale University Courts, New Haven, Conn. — July 4-6.**

**Prairie View Tennis Club (Open)—Prairie View A. and M. Courts, Prairie View, Tex. — July 17-19.**

**Penn. Tennis Association (Open) — Germantown YWCA, Germantown, Pa.—July 24-27.**

**Mall. Tennis Club (Open)— Banneker Courts, Washington, D.C.—July 17-20.**

**N. J. Tennis Association (Eastern Open) — Shady Rest Club, Scotch Plains, N.J.—July 28 to Aug. 3.**

**Kansas City Tennis Club (Open Sectional) — Paradeway Courts, Kansas City, Mo.—Aug. 6-10.**

**N. Y. Tennis Aassociation (Open) — Cosmopolitan Courts, New York City, N.Y. — Aug. 10-15.** Sat. 6-28-47

**Indianapolis Racquet Club (Midwestern Open) — Douglas Park Tennis Courts, Indianapolis, Ind.—Aug. 10-15.**

**Somers Isle L.T.A. (Open) Bermuda Government Courts, Hamilton. Bermuda—Nov. 1-11.**

# ATA Sanctions 15 Tennis Tourneys

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier Sat. 6-28-47

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala.—The American Tennis Association has officially sanctioned fifteen tennis tournaments for this season. Four of them, all closed, have been played. The remaining twelve are open tournaments, including one in Bermuda in November. The tournaments left, according to Chairman B. M. Nesbitt of the Sanction Committee, are: North Carolina Association, Durham, N. C., June 23-27; New England Tennis Association, New Haven, Conn., July 4-6; Prairie View, Tex., July 17-19; Mall Tennis Club, Washington, D. C., July 17-20; Pennsylvania Tennis Association, Germantown, Pa., July 24-27; New Jersey Tennis Association, Eastern, Scotch Plains, N. J., July 28 to August 3; Kansas City Tennis Club, Sectional, Kansas City, Mo., August 6-10; New York Tennis Association, New York City, N. Y., August 4-10, and Indianapolis Racquet Club, Midwestern, Indianapolis, Ind., August 10-15.

National Championships, Tuskegee Institute, Ala., August 18-23, and Somers Isle LTA, Open, Hamilton Bermuda, Nov. 1-11.

# Mrs. Hambrick, Robert Scott Cop Singles

Atlanta, Ga. Daily World Tues. 7-8-47

Mrs. Edith Arnold Hambrick and Robert Scott captured the singles events in 1947 City Tennis Tournament, which got underway last Wednesday, on the Atlanta University Tennis Courts.

Play will be shifted to the Washington Park Recreation Area Courts today, and the mixed doubles match between Miss Willie Allen and Robert Scott and Mrs. Ella Bush and Bennie Lindsay will start at 6 p.m.

Mrs. Hambrick dethroned Mrs. Bush, the defending women's singles champion in a gruelling, 5-7;10-8; 6-3 battle, and Scott beat Nathaniel Tillman, Jr., in another thriller, 6-1; 4-6; 7-5; 6-1. Tues. 7-8-47

In the finals of the women's doubles, Mrs. Hambrick paired with Miss Laura Demery to take the measure of Mrs. Bush and Mrs. Lucia Bacote, 6-0; 6-4.

Joe Williams and Joe Graham defaulted to Robert Scott and T. E. Neal in a semi-finals men's doubles match. After tripping Ralph Long and Dr. H. C. Hamilton, 6-4; 7-9; 6-4; in a first round men's doubles match, Turner Sibley and Bennie Lindsay bowed to Sammy Lindsay and George Coffee. 6-2; 7-5; 7-5.

July 26, 1947

# 1947 Tennis Champions To Be Held At Tuskegee

Orangeburg, S. C... Information culled from reports sent to the Executive secretary and the publicity chairman of the American Tennis Association indicate that the '47 National Championships to be held at Tuskegee Inst. August 18 to 23 will be highlighted with spectacular play of a 1946 newcomer in mens singles and youth in women singles.

George Stewart, the Panama sensation and Althea Gibson, youthful runners up in Womens singles at the 1946 National Champion-hips held at Wilberforce are making the rounds as winners in many of the major sectional tournaments sanctioned by ATA this season. Both of these spectacular racket wellders were winners at the North Carolina Open played at Durham the last week of June. Both have a greatly improved game according to reports.

Since the Silver Jubilee Championships of 1941 held at Tuskegee, the peak year for Jimmie McDaniel according to current opinion, the 1947 defending champion has not faced a more determined contender for the coveted national men's single championships.

Jimmie McDaniels and Lloyd Scott may meet in the finals again at Tuskegee in 1947 as they have done three times since 1941, but it is predicted by many expert observers of this season's play that these two perennial champions may expect tough opposition all the way and George Stewart is expected to be the leading trouble maker. Lloyd Scott had to extend himself in four sets in the semifinals in 1946 at Wilberforce against the Panama sensation.

Jimmie McDaniel did not and has not met George Stewart in tournament play and may have his first chance to match his blasting game against a player with a bag of tricks.

The women's singles threat is Althea Gibson, formerly of New York City but for the past year has been in Wilmington, North Carolina. Miss Gibson played her first women's singles in the national Championships in 1946 at Wilberforce and was finalist against Miss Roumania Peters 1947 defending champion, Miss Gibson was 1945 girls singles champion and in

her first year as National contender in Women's singles went to the finals. Her game has greatly improved and she is the most determined contender for the Women's singles championship at the 1947 Nationals.

Tuskegee as host to the 1947 Championships expects a record attendance of tennis fans to see these spectacular contenders make their championships bids.

J. D. McGhee,
Publicity Chairman
American Tennis Association

## Lloyd Scott Winner of Southwest Open

PRAIRIE VIEW, Texas — Upsets were prevalent in the 18th annual Southwest Open tennis tourney held here July 18-20.

Leading upset was staged by Miss Zelma Moore, who after defeating Tuskegees Mildred Brown, Lois McCann, Gladys Hambrick of San Antonio, returned to defeat her teammate, Pansy Jones, in the finals.

Playing in the doubles, Jones and Moore went undefeated all the way to the finals, which they took from Tuskegee's Mildred Brown and Mrs. Cleve Abbott.

In the men's singles, Lloyd Scott, Prairie View's tennis coach, retained his title by defeating his pupil, Leon Woods of San Antonio.

## George Stewart Wins Tuskegee Net Meet

TUSKEGEE, ALA., Aug. 23.—(AP)—George Stewart, 24-year-old southpaw of the Republic of Panama, won the National Negro tennis championship today by breezing through top-seeded Lloyd Scott of Prairie View, Texas, 6-1, 6-2, 6-2.

Stewart, ranked second, avenged a beating from the Texan in the 1946 semi-finals by mixing a driving game with tricky drop shots.

Stewart paired with Ora Washington of Philadelphia to win the mixed doubles title, 6-4, 3-6, 6-1, over Dr. H. Walter Johnson of Lynchburg, Va., and Althea Gipson of Wilmington, N. C.

Second-seeded Gipson scored a mild upset when she defeated defending champion Roumania Peters, Tuskegee, 7-5, 6-0, for the women's singles diadem.

The men's doubles championship went to John Chandler of Plainfield, N. J., and Harold Mitchell of Oakland, Calif., who defeated Lloyd Scott and Leon Woods, both of Prairie View, Texas, 6-2, 6-3, 6-2.

# Geo. Stewart, Panama Ace, Claims N.E. Open Tournament, Defeating N.C.'s Hubert Eaton

**NEW ENGLAND NET CHAMPS**—Winner and runner-up, George Stewart of Panama, left, and Dr. Hubert Eaton of Wilmington, N.C., shake hands after the former had defeated the latter in the men's singles finals of the New England tennis tournament at Yale courts in New Haven, last week. The second picture shows Alfred James, extreme left, president of the New England Tennis Association, with Charles Jones, NYC, and John Chandler, New Jersey, holding trophies which they won as doubles titlists. Second from right is Bertram Baker, secretary of the American Tennis Association, who made the presentations.

By JOSEPH FISHER JR.

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — George Stewart, for eight years champion tennis player of Panama, defeated Dr. Hubert Eaton of Wilmington, N.C., in a sizzling match at the Yale tennis court to win the New England Open singles championship, 6-4; 4-[illegible] and 6-1.

Eaton played brilliantly but Stewart's left-handed smashes proved too much for the young doctor to cope with.

Stewart, who is touring the United States representing Panama, will next perform in the Capital City tournament in Washington, D.C.

He had faced Don Ellis of Brooklyn, N.Y., in the semi-finals of the three-day play which began Friday and ended Sunday in what proved to be one of the most exciting matches of the tourney.

Dr. Eaton had eliminated stiff competition before the finals, numbering among his victims CIAA Champion Carl Williams of Howard University, whom he downed, 6-4, 6-3, 6-0.

Williams had defeated John Chandler of Fanwood, N.J., in the quarter-finals.

In the men's doubles, John Chandler, former lightweight all-American football player and four-letter man at Rutgers University, and Charles (Chuck) Jones, acting lieutenant of the New York Police Department, defeated Carlton Ashby and Quentin Vaughn, both of Brooklyn, N.Y., 7-5, 6-0 and 6-1 in the final match of the tournament.

Ashby and Vaughn eliminated Eaton and William (Babe) Jones, of Baltimore, in the semi-finals three sets to one, while Chandler and Chuck Jones ousted Junky Wood and Douglas Henderson of Baltimore in a closely-fought contest.

In the women's singles Althea Gibson from Wilmington, N.C., displayed excellent form as she defeated Ethel Freeman of Baltimore in two straight sets by scores of 6-2 and 6-0. Miss Gibson then teamed up with her partner, Doris Miles of Englewood, N.J., to take the measure of Cleo Grosvenor of Brooklyn and Ethel Freeman in the women's doubles; also in two straight sets, 6-2 and 7-5.

The junior title went to Clyde Freeman of Washington, D.C., following a 6-4, 6-3 score over Wilbur Davis of New York.

## Stewart Takes Negro National Tennis Crown

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Aug. 23—(AP)—Mixing a powerful driving game with tricky drop shots, 24-year-old George Stewart of the Republic of Panama today walked off with the 1947 National Negro Tennis Singles crown.

Stewart, a southpaw, was never in trouble as he avenged a beating at the hands of the Texan in the semi-finals of last year's tournament. He vanquished Scott 6-1, 6-2 6-2 in a match that lasted barely an hour.

Shortly afterwards Stewart paired with Ora Washington, Philadelphia, to win the mixed doubles title, 6-4, 3-6, 6-1, over Dr. R. Walter Johnson, Lynchburg, Va., and Althea Gipson, Wilmington, N. C.

Gipson earlier scored a mild upset when she defeated defending champion Roumania Peters, Tuskegee, 7-5, 6-0, for the women's singles diadem. She was runner-up to Peters in the finals of the 1946 championships at Wilberforce, Ohio.

The men's doubles championship went to John Chandler of Plainfield, N. J., and Harold Mitchell, Oakland, Calif., 6-2, 6-3, 6-2, winners over Lloyd Scott and Leon Woods, both of Prairie View, Tex.

Sisters Margaret and Roumania Peters of Tuskegee, perennial women's doubles champions, repeated a feat they have performed regularly in past tournaments. They retained the title with a 5-7, 6-0, 6-2 victory over Ora Washington and Doris Myles, Englewood, N. J.

The junior singles championship was won by Clyde Freeman, Washington, D. C., who doggedly fought his way to a 3-6, 6-1, 3-6, 6-3, 6-1 decision over Wilbert Davis, New York.

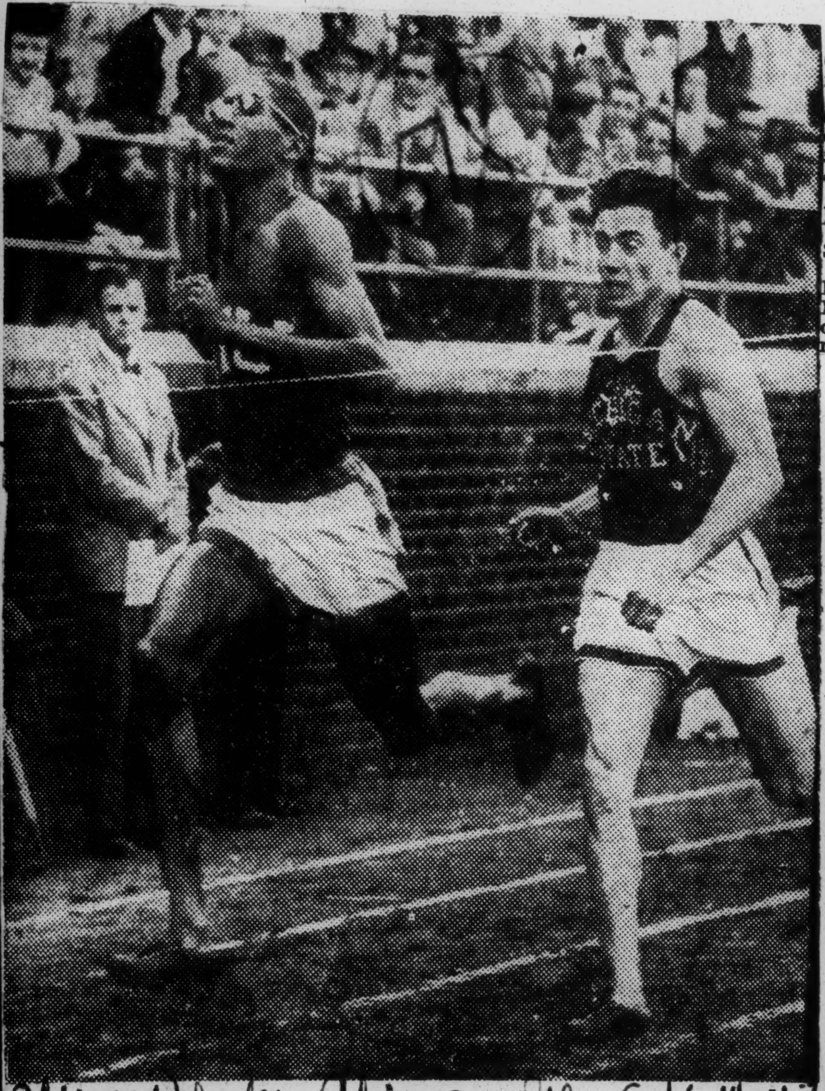
**SPORTS GRIPE**

Some spectators at the ATA meet last week at Tuskege gave out with bitter criticism of the sponsoring group for awarding all of the players identical trophies. Added to this some scored the ATA for not giving certificates to the winners stating their accomplishments.

There were no sweat shirts given the players nor did they get sweaters attesting to their ranking in national competition. Personally, the fans have a justified beef here. If the ATA is to grow into a firm-footed body it will have to do more for its winners.

There is hope that the tennis circuit which Negro players follow each summer will be less hazardous than the one planned this summer. The spotty and zigzag route the players moved over this year meant that the players were forced to cancel important matches because travel difficulties and previous committments would not allow them to get there in time.

511 1947



Chicago Defender - Chicago, Ill. Sat 6-14-47

2 COL SPORTS—2 tahrd tahord dtaord dtaorodd aor tarodl aor

REGINALD PEARMAN, New York University's ex-GI freshman, wins the 880-yard thriller from Michigan State's Jack Dianetti in the Intercollegiate A.A.A.A. meet on Franklin Field, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, on May 31. A terrific burst of speed coming down the stretch enabled Pearman to nip the Westerner at the tape. It was almost a duplicate of Pearman's great finish which beat Herb McKenley, University of Illinois, in the final quarter of the one-mile university relay in the Penn relays in April.—Photo by Chick Solomon. Sat-6-14-47

# Ewell Takes Two Titles in Canada

AFRO-AMERICAN

MONTREAL — Barney Ewell of Philadelphia, took down a "double" as U.S. track and field athletes scored an easy triumph over a Canadian all-star team here Saturday. BALTIMORE, Md.

Ewell, American national 200-meter champion, captured the 100-yard dash and the 200 in 9.9 and 21.8 seconds respectively. In each case he was followed across the finish line by Tom Carey, of New York and Bob Tyler of Morgan State College. 9-13-47

Alice Coachman, loser in the 100-yard dash for women in which she finished third, scored a handy win in the high jump with a leap of 5 feet 1 3/8 inches.

Phil Thigpen of New Jersey, defeated Leslie MacMitchell to gain first in the mile run. Sat

SUMMARIES

Half-mile run—1 William Hulse, Joe Taylor, Can., 3, ROSCOE BROWN, U.S. Time. 1.56.1.

120-yard high hurdles — 1. Tom Mitchell, U.S.; 2, Tom Garland, U.S.; 3, Weston Flint, U.S. Time. 0.15.1.

100-Yard dash — 1. BARNEY EWELL, U.S.; 2, TOM CAREY, U.S.; 3, tie between BOB TYLER, U.S. and Jack Parry, Canada. Time. 0.09.9.

440-yard run — 1, Bob MacFarlane, Canada; 2, Harold McDonnell, U.S.; 3, James McKenna, U.S. Time. 0.48.3.

One-mile run—1, PHILIP THIGPEN, U.S.; 2, Leslie MacMitchell, U.S.; 3, BILL MORRIS, Canada. Time. 4:35.

100-yard dash (women)—1, Dolly Moore, Canada; 2, Doreen Clough, Canada; 3, ALICE COACHMAN, United States. Time: 0.11.7.

220-yard dash — 1, BARNEY EWELL, United States; 2, TOM CAREY, United States; 3, BOB TYLER, United States. Time. 0:21.8.

440-yard relay—1, United States (BARNEY EWELL, TOM CAREY, BOB TYLER and Weston Flint): 2, Canada. Time. 0:42.8 (Provincial record. Old mark. 0:43.8).

High jump (women) — 1, ALICE COACHMAN, United States; 2 Nancy Cowperthwaite, United States. Height, 5 feet 1 3/8 inches. (Provincial record).

Five-mile run — 1, Vic Drygall, United States; 2, Edward O'Toole, United States; Fred Schoeffler, United States. Time. 26:18.7.

One-mile relay — Canada (Bill Larochelle, Jack Parry, Don MacFarlane and Bob MacFarlane) second, U.S. Time, 3:17.1 (Canadian record. Old mark. 3:19.2).

# AMERICAN TRACK STARS RETURN AFTER COMPETING IN EUROPE

Holding trophies won at the International Track and Field meet in Prague, members of the A. A. U. team are shown after leaving American World Airways plane at La Guardia Field yesterday. Left to right, standing: Jim Kelly, their coach; Robert Fitch, Dick Houden, Dave Bolen, A. Richmond Morcom, Floyd Simmons and John Twomey. In front are Allen Lawler (left) and Malcolm Whitfield.

N.Y. Times 8-26-47 Tues. N.Y.

# Two Negroes Break Michigan A.A.U. Records

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Fred Johnson, Michigan State's star Negro performer, leaped 24 feet, 3¼ inches to set a new fieldhouse record in the AAU state meet here Saturday, Feb. 1. The record was set by white Allan Smith of the University of Michigan in 1938 and the State AAU indoor record of 22 feet, 8 inches set by white Sam Hilber in 1932.

Johnson then went on to win the 60-yard dash and the 65 low hurdles. He is a freshman.

Charles Fonville, University of Michigan shotputter, broke the fieldhouse record set by sepia Bill Watson, also of Michigan, seven years ago. He put the shot 51 feet, 5½ inches.

511

# CIAA Athletes Win Five Events to Dominate Philly Track Meet

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 6-7-47 (511)

PHILADELPHIA

CIAA athletes dominated the Greater Olney Boys' Club's second annual Memorial Day track and field meet at Front and Duncannon Sts., last week, copping five first places and a second.

The winners included three Philadelphians making their first local appearance since acquiring CIAA crowns recently. They were:

Ken Dixon, Morgan State College miler, who won his speciality in 4:32.4; Miguel Pulido, Howard University's 220-yard low hurdles titleholder, who won the 440 yard run in 0.50.7; and Hubert Daub, also from Howard, who took high jump honors with a leap of 6 feet, 4 inches.

A fourth CIAA titlist from Philadelphia, Wilbert Lancaster, Linclon University's 100-yard dash ace, was forced into the runner up spot when his teammate, Howrad Thomas came up with t sizzling 9.7 seconds century.

Two other Lincoln athletes, representing the Lincoln University A.A., scored firsts, Lee Robinson winning th 220-yard dash in 0:22.2, and Reginald Pulley, the shop-put ace, with an effort of 135 feet, 2 inches.

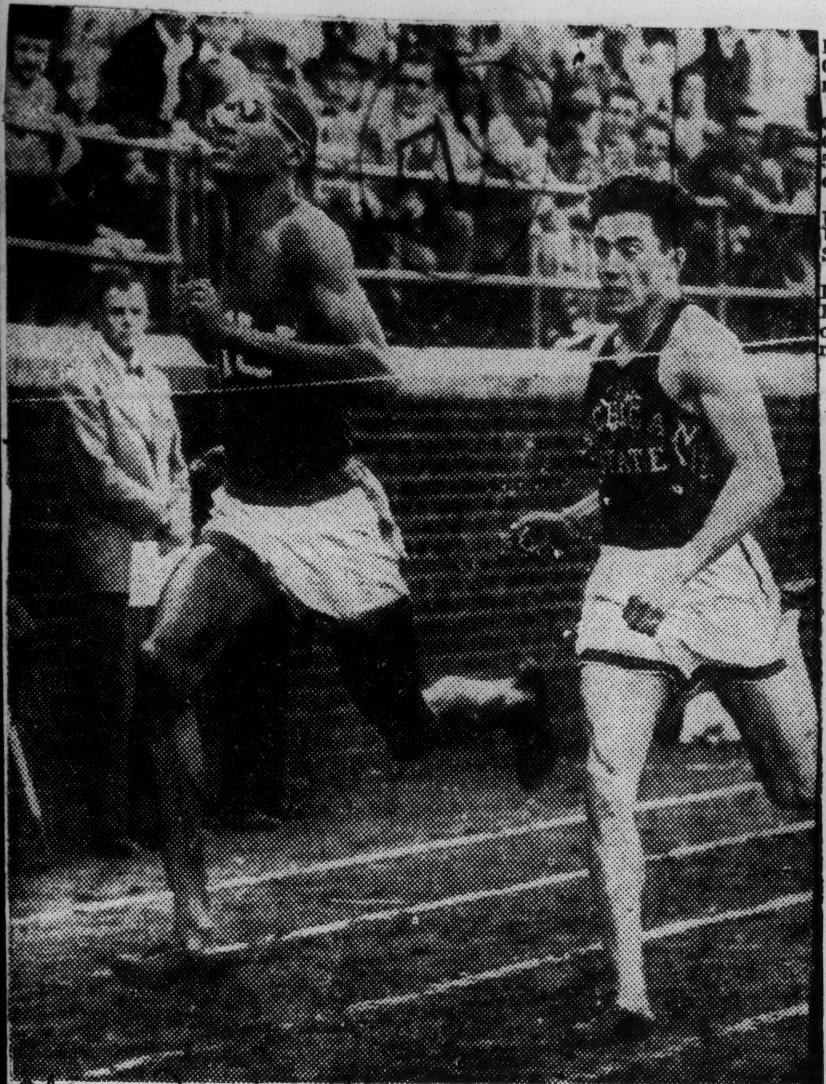
The Warinanco A.C., which puched Lincolin for top team honors, had tow individual winners in Booker Anderson, 200-yard low hurdles, and William Albans, broad jump. Anderson's winning time was 0:22.0, while Albans made a leap of 23 feet, 3½ inches. Sat. 6-7-47

## Ewell Takes Half Mile

Frisby Ewell, LaSalle College's middle-distance star, won the 880-yard run in 1:59.8. He's from West Philadelphia High School and represented the Cornish A.C.

Nancy Cowperthwaite, white New Yorker, dominated the three women's events on the program. Mercedes Moore, speedster on the Washington (D.C.) Falcons, finished third in the 75-yard dash.

51L 1947



Chicago Defender, Chicago, Ill. Sat 6-14-47

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N.Y. Times 8-26-47 N.Y.

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Smashes Olympic 800 Meters Record

Arthur S. Wint, Negro from Jamaica, ran 800 meters in one minute and 50 seconds, one tenth of a second off the Olympic record, during a meet at White City Stadium in London Aug. 16.

Wint, a flight lieutenant in the RAF, set the record in a meet designed by the British Amateur Athletic Board as an unofficial Olympic trial. The Olympic record is held by Thomas Hampson of Great Britain, set at the 1932 Los Angeles Olympics. (Photo Keystone Pictures)

51L 1947

Alice Coachman

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Atlanta, Ga. Daily World

ALBANY, Ga., — (SNS) —

MISS ALICE COACHMAN, the Nation's top female track star wearing the colors of Albany State College for the first time, tied for first place in the individual scoring at the National A A U Meet held at San Antonio, Texas this year. Competing against 165 athletes of all races, Miss Coachman placed first in the 50 meter dash and in the high jump and was second in the 100 meter dash.

The San Antonio daily newspaper expressed, the belief that Miss Coachman was the only contestant in the meet who exhibited the qualifications of an Olympic star Dr. Brown, President of Albany State College where the Albany athlete is matriculating, stated that plans are already underway to have Miss Coachman participate in the Olympic Games to be held in England in 1948. Sat. 7-12-47

A banquet, held in the college dining hall last Wednesday night climaxed a series of affairs given in honor of Miss Coachman and her outstanding performance on the cinder path. Miss Delores King of the College Department of Physical Education was hostess at the final affair. Hoyt Harper served as Toastmaster and remarks were heard from Dr. Brown, Mr. M. L. Heard, Mrs. Carrie Sprye and the honoree Miss Coachman. Musical selection were rendered by Mrs. Ozora Wysinger and Mr. Algernon Moore.

51L

A display of the trophies and medals won by Miss Coachman was unveiled Wednesday at Albany State College. More than fifty awards are shown in the display case. Sat. 7-12-47

The native Albanian will compete in the Canadian Meet later on this year. In the meantime she will buckle down to her studies in an effort to earn her main feat - to get a Bachelor of Science Degree in Home Economics.

SOUTHWEST GEORGIAN Photo
By B. F. Cochrane

511 1947

Harrison Dillard

# MARK IN HURDLES IS TIED BY DILLARD

51 Sun. 6-22-47

## He Races Over High Sticks in 0:13.9 in N. C. A. A. Trial —0:09.4 by Patton in 100

New York, N.Y. Times

SALT LAKE CITY, June 21 (AP)—College boys who hope to visit London next year as Uncle Sam's representatives in the Olympic Games reached title finals today in the N.C.A.A. track and field carnival after turning last night's preliminaries into a fine show despite miserable weather.

The nation's top track coaches agree that most of the United States team in the International games will be made up of collegians competing here, although the Olympich trials will be held later.

Cold rain fell before and during the elimination trials last night in the University of Utah stadium.

**Dugger Record Tied**

Harrison Dillard, defending champion in both hurdle races from Baldwin-Wallace, floated over the high barriers in a stunning 13.9 seconds, tying the N.C.A.A. record that Ed Dugger of Tufts set seven years ago.

Mel Patton, Southern California's wilolwy six-footer, once again tied the world record of 9.4 seconds in the 100-yard dash, but it won't get recognition. Behind him blew a 4.1-mile tailwind, 1.1 miles over the allowable maximum. He also strained a leg muscle but apparently not badly enough to interfere with today's events.

Lithe Herb McKenley of Illinois' defending team champions, making sure he will be around tonight to fight for the 220-yard and 440-yard dash titles he won a year ago, stepped his quarter-mile heat in 46.6 seconds, fully fifteen yards ahead of the field. This was announced as, unofficially, at least, the fastest 440 ever run around two curves. Sun. 6-22-47

**Field Events Postponed**

So wretched was the weather—after baking heat the day before—that preliminaries in the javelin, discus, broad jump and shot put were held over until 2 P. M., Mountain Standard Time, today.

The final tests open at 7:30 tonight. No preliminaries were slated in the mile, two-mile, pole vault and high jump.

Dillard, had he been pressed, might have bettered the N.C.A.A. record of 22.7 seconds in the low hurdles. As it was, coasting the final twenty yards, he whipped through his heat in 0:22.8. McKenley qualified in the 220-yard dash almost as easily as in the quarter-mile, even though he turned in only a 21-second furlong.

Not counting a dead heat among three athletes in one low hurdles heat, Illinois' Big Nine kingpins tok five of the forty-nine places at stake last night. Michigan State took four and Southern California, Baldwin-Wallace, Indiana and U.C.L.A. three apiece.

# DILLLARD WINS IN NORWAY

N.Y. Times N.Y. N.Y.

## Hulse and Vessie Also Victors in Track Meet at Bergen

Tues. 7-29-47

BERGEN, Norway, July 28 (U.P.)—American track and field stars, led by Harrison Dillard of Baldwin-Wallace College, continued their north European tour tonight by winning every event and breaking most local records in an international meet. Tues. 7-29-47

Dillard won the 100-meter sprint in 0:10.4 and the 110-meter hurdles in 0:14.3. George Guida of the Collegiate Track and Field Club of Philadelphia took the 400-meter race in 0:49.2, while Bill Hulse of the New York Athletic Club and Tarvar Perkins of the Illinois Athletic Club finished one, two in the 1,500-meter run. Hulse was timed at 3:56.4 and Perkins at 3:56.6.

United States runners also won a relay race and in the field events, Bill Vesie of the New York A. C. annexed the high jump with a leap of 1.97 meters, and Fortune Gordien of the University of Minnesota captured the discus competition with a throw of 52.39 meters.

# 72,000 See Dillard Win Glasgow Hurdles

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 8-23-47

**SPECIAL TO AFRO** 51

MALMO, Sweden — Huge crowds have greeted the touring U.S. track and field team in European meets the past three weeks, the largest being the 72,000 who watched the Americans score at Glasgow, Scotland, on Aug. 2.

Harrison Dillard, hurdling sensation from Baldwin-Wallace College, Berea, Ohio, has easily proved the outstanding athlete of the group. He has been spurred, perhaps, by the fact that, as he puts it, "It's a great relief to get out from under the weight the 'wrong' color puts on you."

The U.S. timmer-topping champion is undefeated for the tour, has won all his races by from one to two yards, and has beaten Haakon Lidman, Sweden's European titlist, four consecutive times. Sat. 8-23-47

Following is a brief resume of Dillard's achievements up to his arrival here:

Oslo, Norway — July 23, 24, 25 — 100 m., 10.6 and 10.7; 110 m. hurdles, 14.0 and 14.0; 200 m., 21.2 (around a curve); legs on two relays.

Bergen, Norway — July 28, 29 — 100 m., 10.4; 110 m. hurdles, 14.3; legs on two relays.

Glasgow, Scotland — Aug. 2 — 110 m. hurdles, 14.9 (on grass).

Stockholm, Sweden — Aug. 5, 6 — 100 m., 10.3; 110 m. hurdles, 14.1, leg on a relay.

Rydboholm, Sweden (Haakon Lidman's home town) — Aug. 7 — 110 m. hurdles, 14.2.

Malmo, Sweden — Aug. 8 — 100 m., 10.5; 110 m. hurdles, 14.4; leg on a relay.

# Dillard's Low Hurdle Record Wins Approval

Memphis World

Memphis Times

LONDON—(ANP)— Harrison Dillard, the Baldwin-Walace college star who equalled the 220-yard low hurdle mark held by Fred Wolcott white, of Rice institute, was officialy recognized as co-owner of the world's title by the International Amateur Athletic federation here last week. Dillard tied Wolcott's time of 22.5 at the Delaware, O. track and field event on June 8, 1946. June 10-14, 47

In the 100-yard dash, the IAAF recognized a record made by D. J. Joubert, white South African, back in 1931 when the track star ran 100 yards in 9.4 seconds to equal the standard held by three Americans one of whom is Jesse Owens. According to an IAFF official, the delay in granting the recognition to South Africa was because the country did not come forth with its application for recognition for a long time. Seven world records in all were approved by the group, two of which were won by Americans.

51L 1947

Barney Ewell

# Barney Ewell Sets Mark in M3AU Dash

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 6-28-47

## Ex-Penn State Speedster Trips 100-Yard Distance in 9.6 Seconds

HARRISBURG, Pa.—Bent on winning a berth on the U.S. Olympics team, Barney Ewell highlighted the Middle Atlantic AAU track and field championships with two sizzling victories here Saturday.

The former Penn State star and several times national sprint champion thrilled a crowd of more than 2,000 spectators by shattering the Middle Atlantic 100-yard record and coming within three-tenths of a second of the world 300-yard mark in a special event which supplemented the program.

Ewell clipped two-tenths of a second off the century mark by covering the distance in 9.6 seconds, bettering the time of 9.8 hung up by George Guida, white, of Villanova, two years ago.

Following a brief rest he won the 300 in 30.5 seconds, just shy of the world's record set by the late Charley Paddock, white, of California, Apr. 23, 1921.

"I am going to compete in defense of my 200 meter national AAU crown," Ewell declared after the meet, "and I also plan to compete in a track meet in Canada."

Those two meets are all he has listed at present, but Ewell plans to keep in shape by running all summer, and into the winter season. Sat. 6-28-47

"I am looking ahead to the Olympics in London next year and certainly hope to bring back at least one title," he added.

## Clowns to Battle Monarchs Sunday

KANSAS CITY—The Indianapolis Clowns, national champions in 1941, face the Kansas City Monarchs in a double-header, here, Sunday, and then head back east in company with the Monarchs.

The two teams will play June 30 at Quincy, Ill., July 2, Charleston, W. Va., July 4 at Griffith Stadium, Wash., after which will follow appearances at most of the Eastern major parks.

511 1947

General

# Dillard Sets Record in Hurdles at Drake Relays

*Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier*

DES MOINES, Iowa—Harrison Dillard, the bronze bullet of Baldwin-Wallace College, was the big show in the annual Drake Relays as he sped to a new record for the meet in the 120-yard high hurdles. His time was 0:14.1, a tenth of a second better than the old mark hung up by Freddie Wolcott of Texas nine years ago.

Dillard beat Bill Porter, Northwestern, by a good yard. Clyde Scott of Arkansas was third and Augie Erfurth of Rice, defending champion, was fourth. *Sat. 5-3-47*

The speedy sepia star is the holder of six American hurdle records and is almost a sure-fire bet to make the American Olympic team next year.

A crowd of 12,000 watched the races and field events and got its biggest thrill when Dillard skimmed over the hurdles in record-breaking time. *Sat. 5-3-47*

Bill Martison of Baylor University won the 100-yard dash in a close finish with Charles Peters of Indiana, second, and Charlie Parker, Texas, third. The time was 0:09.8.

Drake won the university four-mile relay, with Bill Mack, anchor man, zooming home in front of his nearest competitor by twenty-five yards. The time was 17:31.1.

*Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier* *Sat. 5-3-47*

**IN FRONT AT PENN RELAYS**—PHILADELPHIA, Pa. Herbert McKenley of Illinois crosses the finish line ahead of the rest of the field in the final of the College Quarter Mile Relay Championship of America at the fifty-third annual Pennsylvania Relay Carnival. Behind him (left to right) are Don Schneider of Penn; Ira Kaplan of New York University, who placed second, and John Quigley of Manhattan College, who finished third. Illinois' winning time was 41.7.—Photo by Mike Freeman for INS.

# Quarter-Mile Ace In Corking Score

*Afro-American Baltimore, Md.*

*Sat. 6-28-47*

## Illini Luminary Clocked in 4.2; Hurdler's 22.3 Thrills

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah—Paced by world record performances by Herb McKenley and Harrison Dillard, who shared four of them, four athletes annexed six titles at the National Collegiate track and field championships here last week end.

McKenley, who led University of Illinois to the team crown, set a new world mark of 46.2 seconds in the 440-yard dash, and Dillard, Baldwin-Wallace College's one-man track team, broke the world record in the 220-yard low hurdles, covering the distance in the sizzling time of 22.3 seconds.

McKenley and Dillard also took down individual honors for the two-day meet, the former grabbing firsts in the 220 and 440, and the latter capturing the 120-yard high hurdles as well as the 220 lows. *Sat. 6-28-47*

The other two victories were turned in by Willie Steele, San Diego State College star, who bettered Jesse Owens's meet record of 26 feet 1¾ inches, to cop the broad jump, and Charles (Chuck) Fonville, Michigan, who won the shotput title with a heave of 54 feet 10⅞ inches.

### Tops Owens Leap

Steele, who is the defending national champion in the broad jump, leaped 26 feet 6 inches, but no attempt will be made to have the mark recognized as a strong wind was at his back when he accomplished the feat.

In winning the 220-yard race, McKenley was repeating his 1946 triumph in these same games.

His quarter-mile effort was a sparkling affair. Tearing around two curves, the Jamaica-born flyer hit the tape three-tenths of a second faster than the meet record hung up by Archie Williams in 1936, and bettered Ben Eastman's (white) 15-year-old mark of 46.4 by two-tenths of a second.

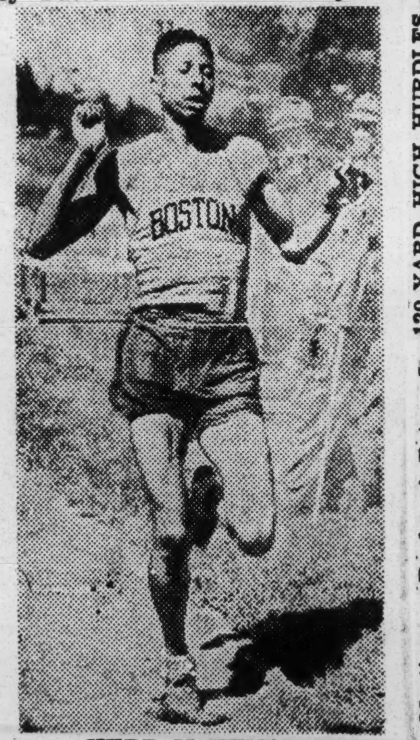
Dillard clipped four-tenths of a second off the 22.7 in which Jack Keller, white, of Ohio State, won the low hurdles event in 1932. His 22.3 seconds was also a faster trick than Fred Wolcott's (white) 22.5 world record, set in 1940.

### Equaled Another

The previous day, incidentally, Dillard equaled the meet record of 13.9 seconds in the 120-yard high hurdles.

Bill Mathis, defending champion in the national 100-meter dash, became the second "name" star to bow to the sensational Mel Patton, white, U.S.C. sprinter. Mathis finished second to Patton in the 100-yard dash, which the latter won in 9.7 seconds. The Trojan bullet had matched the world mark of 9.4 seconds in trial heats. *Sat. 6-28-47*

Although the times turned in by Patton and Dillard may not



HERB McKENLEY

be accepted, it is believed likely that McKenley's 440-yard clocking will get official recognition. A strong wind was at the backs of the straightaway runners, but McKenley admittedly had to run into the wind as he tramped down the backstretch. *Sat. 6-28-47*

### THE SUMMARIES

880-YARD RUN—1, Clifford, Ohio State; 2, Dianetti, Michigan State; 3, Barten, Michigan; 4, Knowles, San Jose (Calif.) State; 5, Hensey, Washington; 6, PEARMAN, NYU. Time—1:50.8.

220-YARD DASH—1, McKENLEY, Illinois; 2, PETERS, Indiana; 3, Schepers, Michigan State; 4, Guida, Villanova; 5, Martineson, Baylor; 6, Houden, Wisconsin. Time—0:20.7.

BROAD JUMP — 1, STEELE, San Diego (Calif.) State, 26 feet 6 inches; 2, Wright, Wayne, 25 feet 9½ inches; 3, La Mois, Minnesota, 24 feet 2 inches; 4, Mondschein, NYU, 23 feet 11¾ inches; 5, Lawrence, Southern California, 23 feet 10 inches; 6, two tied at 23 feet 9½ inches, Luthold, Illinois, and JOHNSON, Michigan State. (Winning jump betters NCAA record of 26 feet 1⅜ inches set by JESSE OWENS, Ohio State, in 1935, but disallowed because of tail wind.)

400-YARD DASH—1, Patton, Southern California; 2, MATHIS, Illinois; 3, Martineson, Baylor; 4, Peters, Indiana; 5, Houden, Wisconsin; 6, Smalley, San Jose (Calif.) State. Time—0:09.7.

440-YARD RUN—1, McKENLEY, Illinois; 2, BOLEN, Colorado; 3, Neblon, Washington State; 4, DeLoach, Southern California; 5, Harnden, Texas A. and M.; 6, Katznar, Baldwin-Wallace. Time—0:46.2 (new meet and world record; breaks former NCAA record of 0:46.5 set by Williams, California, 1936, and world record of 0:46.4 set by Ben Eastman, USA, 1932).

MILE RUN—1, Carver, Penn State; 2, Rehberg, Illinois; 3, Mack, Drake; 4, Gehrmann, Wisconsin; 5, Brelsford, Ohio Wesleyan; 6, Sparks, Texas. Time—4:17.2.

120-YARD HIGH HURDLES—1, DILLARD, Baldwin-Wallace; 2, Porter, Notrhwestern; 3, Dixon, UCLA; 4, Mitchell, Indiana; 5, Erfurth, Rice; 6, Clark, Washington. Time—0:14.1. *Sat. 6-28-47*

DISCUS—1, Gordien, Minnesota, 173.3 feet; 3, Sheehan, Missouri, 150.2 feet; 4, Millington, California, 148.3 feet; 5, Denmark, San Jose (Calif.) State, 147.8 feet; 6, Ker, College of Pacific, 147.5 feet.

SHOT-PUT—1, FONVILLE, Michigan, 54 feet 10⅞ inches; 2, Wassel, Illinois, 54 feet 3¼ inches; 3, Gordien, Minnesota, 54 feet 2¼ inches; 4, Mayer, New York University, 54 feet ½ inch; 5, Shipkey, UCLA, 53 feet 2¾ inches; 6, Bayless, Southern California, 52 feet 8¾ inches.

# Sepia Cinder Stars Shine in Relays

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

**By W. ROLLO WILSON**

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. — A sunny Saturday afternoon and a crowd of 40,000, fully one-third of which was colored, were a perfect background for the thrilling climaxes of another of a long series of Pennsylvania Relay Carnivals, fifty-three in number. The two days of action furnished by over 3,000 athletes from more than 500 schools, colleges, prep and parochial schools did not end until the last race reached its last lunge at the hempen cord by which victory is punctuated. That last race, with Herb McKenley of Illinois, having the door shut in his face by Reggie Pearman of New York University, was the highlight of highlights, a fit end to a glorious carnival.

Only a few minutes after Bill Mathis, of Illonois, had defeated Lieut. Bill Carter, former Pitt star and national collegiate champion, in his bid to repeat in the invitation hundred yards-dash the seventy-seventh event of the two-day program was reached. Illinois was making a bid to equal its four championships gained in 1946. Three were already in the records and the quartette was heavily favored to breeze through in the one-mile championship relay.

Six teams were entered: Illinois, NYU, Fordham, Navy, Manhattan and Penn State. In an effort to spring another surprise, as they had done in the sprint medley on Friday, the Violet withdrew Reggie Pearman from the two-mile relay in order to concentrate on the mile. It was slick strategy.

Navy was ahead on the first leg and also at the end of the second but NYU's Callendar put his team in front on the third lap.

Pearman was off first on the anchor and right behind him was the Navy star. Vranek handed the baton to Herb McKenley a fraction of a second later and the Jamaican was off the mark but was bumped by the third-leg men running from the track. He, therefore, had a deficit of 15 yards to overcome as he set sail. And set sail he did. Sat. 5-3-47

At the turn he was in full speed and began to close the gap on the far side of the track. Before the men hit the back stretch he had passed the Navy anchor man and was closing in on Pearman at the final curve.

On the straightway he came shoulder to shoulder with Reggie and they matched strides the final yards. Ten yards from the payoff McKenley forged slightly ahead. A man with a weaker heart than Pearman might have quit but the ex-soldier does not have that word in his vocabulary. From somewhere in his splendid system he summoned another ounce of reserve for the final surge. It gave him victory in what almost could have been a dead-heat.

That left the Illini with three American championships and the Violet with two and glory enow for all.

**ILLINI WINS THIRD ONE**

The boys from Champaign, Ill., got another flying start on Saturday morning when they out-stepped NYU to win the one-half mile American relay championship. Once again it was McKenley who spelled the difference between defeat and victory.

Taking the stick in third place on the anchor leg the Jamaican proved that he was still master of the vaunted Quigely, of the Jaspers and Ira Kaplan, of the Violet. Quickly he made up the deficit and won going way, with a margin of almost ten yards.

The time was an excellent 1:26.1, only six-tenths of a second off the relay mark set by North Texas Teachers in 1940 and nine-tenths world mark set up in 1937.

Irving Mondschein, NYU, won the broad jump with a modest 23 feet, 9 inches; behind him was New Hampshire's Richard Norcom, three inches less. Homer Gillis, NYU, was third and Roger Grayson, Howard, fourth. Gillis leaped 23 feet, five inches and the Bison representative did 22, ten. Sat. 5-3-47

In the first of the College class one-mile relays George Guida, winner of the Old Timers District College Award, anchored Villanova to an easy victory. Delaware State finished a bad last. Time was 3:21.7 and Guida's time for the quarter 49.2 seconds.

Miner Teachers, Washington, ended seventh in the seven-team second college class relay. Massachusetts State. Sat. 5-3-47

Stretch running by Leroy Jenkins, in the third heat put West Chester Teachers in the fight for a brief moment in the next event but Merchant Marine academy and Lock Haven were ahead at the tape. Virginia State was fourth.

**LINCOLN LOSES**

Wayne College, Detroit, with three colored runners won the next race. Lincoln, was disqualified (they were second) because of the first runner pushing on the first turn.

Disaster also overtook Morgan State in the succeeding race and for the same reason. After Bob Tyler had brought his team into first place the foursome was disqualified for crowding on a turn. The Howard team of Keen, Bright, Pulido, and Collins was declared the winner in a fast 3:25.7. Rutgers was second and Lafayette, third. Morgan had done 3:25.2.

Frank Dixon ran a 4:23.2 mile to keep NYU in second place in the first leg of the four-mile relay but his mates could not stay up there behind Penn State and Manhattan. As a consequence, when Reggie Pearman took the stick on the anchor leg he was at least 150 yards in the rear. They finished with Penn State in front, with Gerald Karver, and Manhattan's Atkinson in the second slot. Time, 17:32, 16 seconds off the relay mark of the 1937 Indiana team of Truitt, Smith, Deckard and Lash.

Fred Johnson was one of the four Indiana runners who beat out Army and NYU in the third heat of the shuttle hurdles relay. Payton Flournoy and Warren Halliburton ran for the Violet.

**HEATS OF CENTURY**

Three heats were run to qualify for the finals of the 100-yards dash. In the first heat Lieut. William Carter, last year's winner, faced five men and won in 10 seconds, Zegger, of Columbia, and Hylton of CCNY trailing.

Charlie Jupiter, runner-up in 1946, put Howard University into the picture again in winning the second heat over Homer Gillis, NYU, Joe Cinaciabella, of Manhattan and Walt Galliford, of Virginia. This was also a ten-second frame.

Little Bill Mathis, of the Illini, won the final heat, with Lincoln's Fred Jones, NYU's Ira Kaplan, Penn's Elliott Hansell and Richard Jenkins, of Yale, in his wake. Time, 10 seconds, all heats being the same.

**MORGAN IN CLASS B MILE**

Lincoln and Morgan put on a show in the first section of the Class B mile relay. Lincoln led in the first heat but Gross, of Morgan, overcame a big lead to put the Bear in front at the end of the second lap. Streetz, of the Lionpack, returned the compliment and passed the baton to his anchor man well ahead.

But Bob Tyler was the anchor man for Morgan and he caught Jim Law in the back stretch and passed him, with Dudley, of Wayne, closing in fast. Tyler stayed in front and the time was 3:25.6.

Good as that was Morgan was shut out after the second section was run. Army won it in 3:20.9. Then followed, on a time basis, Duke and Manhattan and Virginia Union and Princeton tied for fourth, with 3:25.

Illinois failed in its bid at the two-mile relay title, finishing third behind Fordham and Manhattan. The time was 7:50.7. Morgan State also ran.

Five men finished in a tie at 6 feet, 4 inches, in the high jump. Included in the quintette were John Jones, of Montgomery, Ala., Teachers, and Edward Taylor, of Western Michigan.

**MATHIS WINS "HUNDRED" IN .09.9**

Bill Mathis, of Illinois, caught Lieut. Bill Carter just before the tape to win the "century" in nine and nine-tenths seconds. Hard on their heels were Fred Jones of Lincoln, and Charlie Jupiter of Indiana won the shuttle hurdles finals, Johnson holding his own in his heat, with a good time of :61.2 and North Carolina and Virginia were in the rut.

**ILLINI ON MARCH**

It seemed like an old story in a new frame when Coach Leo Johnson's Illinois runners swept to victory in the quarter-mile relay. Their heat time in Event No. 3, with Bill Mathis, George Walker, Bill Cook and Herb McKenley running in that order, had been too fast for Pitt, Princeton and Temple. They were clocked at :42.2, the best time of the six heats.

It was Illinois, Manhattan, Pennsylvania and New York University in the finals. With all even at the anchor leg it was the Violets' Ira Kaplan and Manhattan's Silver Star and Purple Heart Johnny Quigley who made the first challenge to Herbert McKenley, picked last year by the Old Timers' as the star of the Relays.

The Jamaican could have started with a three-yard lead but baton passing outside of the exchange zone last year had disqualified them in another race. So Bill Cook, a freshman from Chicago, who had his club in the lead, handed the stick to a McKenley who was barely trotting to the zone limit. Kaplan and Quigley were shoulder to shoulder with him but at the end of the half-furlough Herb was two yards ahead. Timed in 41.7 seconds the Illini were .2 off their winning streak mark of 1946. NYU and Manhattan were second in a dead-finish with :41.9 and Penn's quartet was fourth in a flat :42.0.

The fifty-third renewal of the colorful carnival had opened on a high note for the host school, Pennsylvania. For the first time in its history Penn man was the winner in the 400-meters high hurdles, the Harry Hillman Memorial, established in 1924. He was Jeff Kirk, once of Swarthmore High and of the Army Medical Corps. And in the winning he set up a new mark of 53.3 seconds which erased the meet record of :55.5 made by Michigan Normal's Eugene Beatty in 1932. Beatty won the event three years in a row.

Kirk, latest in a famous Swarthmore family of athletes, had a long lead over Warren Halliburton, NYU's Metropolitan and Intercollegiate champion, and Wilbur Ross, back again at Morgan State.

**FRANK DIXON FAILS AGAIN**

The Illinois invaders won their second victory in the distance medley where the first man runs a quarter-mile; the second, a half-mile; the third, three-quarters of a mile, and the anchor, a mile. McKenley ran the first leg in 47.8 seconds to hand the baton to Bill Beile, Marine veteran. He had been pushed by Manhattan's Johnny Quigley and Villanova's George Guida, who won the Old Timers' District College Award this year.

Beile got away first on the half-mile leg and Villanova and Manhattan started to lag. Coming out of the pack was NYU's Reggie Pearman. He caught and passed the Western veteran in the backstretch of the second lap and put Frank Dixon into a comfortable lead. Pearman, who runs out of season for Joe Yancey's Pioneer Club and who is an Army veteran, did a nice 1:52.2 for the half-mile leg.

If Dixon, 1943 national indoor king, could have held the form which was his before he entered the Navy, the Violet could have possibly won the race. But Frank failed, as he has done in almost every race since his return. Illinois, Manhattan and Penn State all passed him in the backstretch. Illinois was off in the lead on the anchor leg as Bob Rehberg passed to John Twomey. His 4:19.9 mile brought the Illini its second national title for the day.

**PEARMAN GETS REVENGE**

The sprint medley gave Reggie Pearman his opportunity to assuage his disappointment for the NYU defeat in the distance medley. In this race the first man runs 440; the second and third men, each 220 and the fourth, 880.

Ordinarily, Herb McKenley would have run the quarter-mile to put Illinois into a nice lead but Herb was becoming a tired young man by now. There was surprise in the press box when Roy Vranek appeared on the line to lead off. Penn's Jeff Kirk, who had rested for hours, went into and held the lead for the quarter.

McKenley, running second, could not catch Penn's Elliott Hansell in the furlong. Bill Cook, who followed the Islander, ate up the distance and passed Shiekman, of Penn and Rehberg was off first with the Illini's colors on the half-mile and final leg.

And then Pearman came into his own, became the day's hero and a candidate for the Old Timers' Award. The 22-year-old Metropolitan AAU 880-yards champion before seeing service in Japan, was still smarting from what had happened in the distance medley. Frustation was salt in the wounds of his depression and lent speed to his limbs as he began to pass all others and creep up on the veteran Rehberg. At the final turn he was more than ten yards behind the Illinois first-placer. Sat. 5-3-47

Steadily Perman gained in the straightaway and ten yards from the cord he was less than a step behind. A superhuman burst, a final lunge and he and NYU had won!

Although there were two other sections to the race—won by Fordham, 3:29.2, and Columbia, 3:32.1 —the 3:26.2 of NYU's Milford Parker, I. Kaplan, Homer Gillias and Reggie Pearman stood up. This compared with the 3:24.3 Carnival record set up by Pitt's Long John Woodruff and companions in 1938.

Virginia Union and Morgan State failed to place in the heat won by Fordham.

Look Des Moines, Iowa

**Who spoiled the 1936 Olympics for Adolf Hitler?**

*—Thomas Coleman, Cabin Creek, West Va.*

5-13-47

The Negro members of the American track-and-field team made Adolf very unhappy.

Jesse Owens—above—won the 100-meter and 200-meter dashes, the broad jump and was a member of the 400-meter relay team. Archie Williams won the 400-meter run; John Woodruff, the 800 meters; and Cornelius Johnson, the high jump. Adolf was so upset he didn't summon them to his box for the traditional handshake.

# Barney Ewell Breaks Meet Record In 300-Meter Run

*Daily World* *Atlanta, Ga.*

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.— (NNPA) —Lillie Purifoy of Tuskegee Institute's national women's championship track team set a new American indoor record for women in the 50-yard low hurdles when she topped the timbers in 7.3 seconds to clip a tenth of a second off the fifteen year old mark of Evelyn Hall during the Philadelphia Inquirer's invitation track and field meet held here Friday night, before 10,000 spectators. *Wed. 1-29-47*

Little Harrison Dilliard, of Baldwin Wallace College of Berea, Ohio short on form but long on speed, won the 50-yard high hurdles before the capacity crowd as colored stars flashed mid-season form.

In the women's international relay, Tuskegee's champion ran 2nd to the Malvarnett Athletic Club of Toronto, Canada.

Eddie Conwell got off to one of his celebrated jet propelled starts to leave Barney Ewell sitting in his holes in the 50-yard dash, but Ewell, the national 200-meter champion, came back in the 300- meter run to hand Elmore Harris, former Morgan College ace and 400-meter titleholder, his first defeat this year in three starts, Ewells' time was 0.33.1 and set a new meet record.

**DILLARD WINS HURDLES**

Dillard, who came back from the war to sweep the National AAU and NCAA high and low hurdles titles last spring, was a bolt off the mark in the final. First to the first hurdle, he was never headed altho he lost his rhythm slightly en route a matter which never bothers Dillard much. His speed catapulted him home in front by a yard in 6.3 seconds, two lengths back of the indoor record.

Howard University's crack mile relay champions of the CIAA scorer the lone victory for Washington schools in the meet in the 2nd section of the college mile relay leading Westchester State Teachers College of Pennsylvania by 8 yards at the tape. *Wed.*

With Dick Lee, Roland Morgan Jno Lassiter and Bill Collins handling the stick, Howard was out in front all the way although the race was close for the first three laps. At the beginning of the final lap Collins had only a one yard lead when he received the stick but increased his lead to 8 yards before the tape. *1-29-47*

Thirty-six national champions and former national champions participated in the meet held in Convention Hall.

John Jones, New Jersey Negro, who is attending school at the local Alabama State Teachers College, tied for first place in the High Jump event in the Penn relays at Philadelphia last week. . . He jumped six feet and four inches. *4-29-47*

# NEW YORK U. TEAM TAKES TRACK TITLE

*Times* *Jun. 5-18-47*

## Tops Manhattan by 26 Points in Met. Intercollegiates—Seven Marks Are Set

*New York, N.Y.*

**By JOSEPH M. SHEEHAN**

Seven meet records were set in a series of brilliant performances as New York University's heavily-favored squad beat down a surprisingly formidable challenge by Manhattan College to capture team honors in the fourteenth Metropolitan intercollegiate outdoor track and field championships yesterday.

Crushing superiority in the field events carried the day for Coach Emil Von Elling's charges, who have showed the way to the local pack six times in a row and nine altogether. The wholesale clean-up by their talented jumpers and throwers enabled the Violets to roll up a record total of 112 points.

Manhattan, which took six first places to N. Y. U.'s eight and outscored its arch-rivals on the track, 59 to 50, wound up with 86 points, after having been out in front for half the long program at Triborough Stadium on Randall's Island.

**Other Teams Far Behind**

The rest of the seven-team field was left far behind in the battle of the uptown titans. Fordham, with 16 points, placed third, followed by City College, 10½; Brooklyn College, 9, and St. John's, 6½. St. Francis failed to score. The Rams and the Kingsmen each produced one individual winner.

Heroes of the N. Y. U. triumph were Irving Mondschein and Bernie Mayer, both double victors. Mondschein won the high and broad jumps, setting a mark of 23 feet 8 inches in the latter event, placed third in the shot-put and tied for third in the pole vault for a personal haul of 15½ points.

Pressed into service when Manhattan's early lead threw the N. Y. U. camp into a state of panic, Mayer retained his shot-put and discus throw titles with amazing performances, considering that he was fully dressed in civilian clothes and wore spikeless moccasins. Convalescing from an attack of bronchitis, Big Bernie had come merely to look on.

Little Joe Cianciabella, Manhattan's dynamic freshman, was the meet's other double winner. Thundering up in the last few strides in each instance, the 5-foot 5-inch Jasper took in both sprints in meet record time. George Eastment's prize pupil was caught in 0:09.7 for the 100 and 0:21.2 for the 220.

Spirited competition, ideal weather conditions and a lightning-fast track combined to bring about top-flight performances in most of the running events. In merit, there was nothing to compare with the breath-taking 0:47.5 quarter-mile turned in by Fordham's Harold McDonnell. *Jun. 5-18-47*

Breaking on top and holding fast against all challenges, the chunky Ram sophomore snapped the tape two yards in front of N. Y. U's improving Jim Gilhooley, who edged out Manhattan's favored Johnny Quigley in the final drive. McDonnell's time clipped a full second off the mark set by Wesley Wallace of Fordham in 1941.

Coming from way back with one of his terrific homestretch bursts, N. Y. U.'s Reggie Pearman knocked six-tenths of a second off Leslie MacMitchell's 1940 half-mile record with a 1:54.2 effort. The Violet freshman sensation beat Manhattan's Bill Atkinson by five yards after both swept by Jerome Connolly of Fordham, the pacemaker, in the homestretch.

**Walsh Wins With Drive**

The other record performances were turned in by N. Y. U.'s mile relay combination of Charles Grohsberger, Gilhooley, Maurice Callender and Pearman, which did 3:18.9 in beating Manhattan by thirty-five yards, and Dan Sullivan of Manhattan, who stepped the 220-yard low hurdles in 0:24.2.

Manhattan's Ed Walsh was the only other 1946 winner, besides Mayer, of eight champions who defended twelve titles to come through. A homestretch sprint carried the slim Jasper home ahead of his team-mates, John Flinter and Tom Comerford, and N. Y. U.'s Frank Dixon in the close finish of 4:25 mile. *Times*

Armand Osterberg of N. Y. U. galloped away from Manhattan's Eddie O'Toole on the last lap to win the two-mile run in 9:32.1, three-tenths of a second off the meet record. Dixon, doubling up after his mile, caught O'Toole in the stretch to finish eight yards back of his Violet team-mate.

A mishap to N. Y. U.'s favored Warren Halliburton, who struck a barrier and dropped out with an injured leg, opened the road for a near-clean sweep of the 120-yard high hurdles by Manhattan, whose Tom Byrnes was the winner in 0:15.4. This unexpected harvest and their one-two-three in the mile gave the Jaspers a 20-point lead after five finals, and caused the concern that the Violets' field event men soon erased.

Competition, keen throughout, was at its height in the sprint. In the century, Cianciabella won by inches from N. Y. U.'s Ira Kaplan and Homer Gillis, split by Bob Hylton of City College, who also was caught in 0:09.7 in his semi-final. Little Joe had no more than a yard on Hylton, with Manhattan's Al Rogers close up, in the 220.

Rounding out the roster of victors were Max Padla of N. Y. U. in the hammer throw, Sam Klein of Brooklyn College in the javelin throw and Tom Lee of Manhattan in the pole vault.

Reginald Pearman, N. Y. U., beating Bill Atkinson, Manhattan, and Jerry Connolly, Fordham, in the 880. His time of 1:54.2 bettered the old mark of 1:54.8 set by Leslie MacMitchell of N. Y. U. in 1940.

*Times New York, N.Y. Jun. 5-18-47*

**THE SUMMARIES**

**CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS**

120-Yard High Hurdles—1, Thomas Byrnes, Manhattan; 2, Daniel Sullivan, Manhattan; 3, Payton Flournoy, N. Y. U.; 4, Philip Einsmann, Manhattan; 5, William Drew, Manhattan. Time—0:15.4.

100-Yard Dash—1, Joseph Cianciabella, Manhattan; 2, Ira Kaplan, N. Y. U.; 3, Robert Hylton, C. C. N. Y.; 4, Homer Gillis, N. Y. U.; 5, John Gorman, Manhattan. Time—0:09.7. (New championship record; old record, 0:09.8, by Ben Johnson, Columbia, 1937, 1938, Herbert Weast, Columbia, 1939, and Ed Conwell, N. Y. U., 1944. Hylton did 0:09.7 in semi-finals).

Javelin Throw—1, Sam Klein, Brooklyn College, 171 feet 11 inches; 2, Philip Einsmann, Manhattan, 171 feet 1¾ inches; 3, Charles Covino, Manhattan, 156 feet ¼ inch; 4, Herbert Cantor, Brooklyn College, 153 feet 3⅜ inches; 5, Jerry Goodman, N. Y. U., 147 feet 9½ inches.

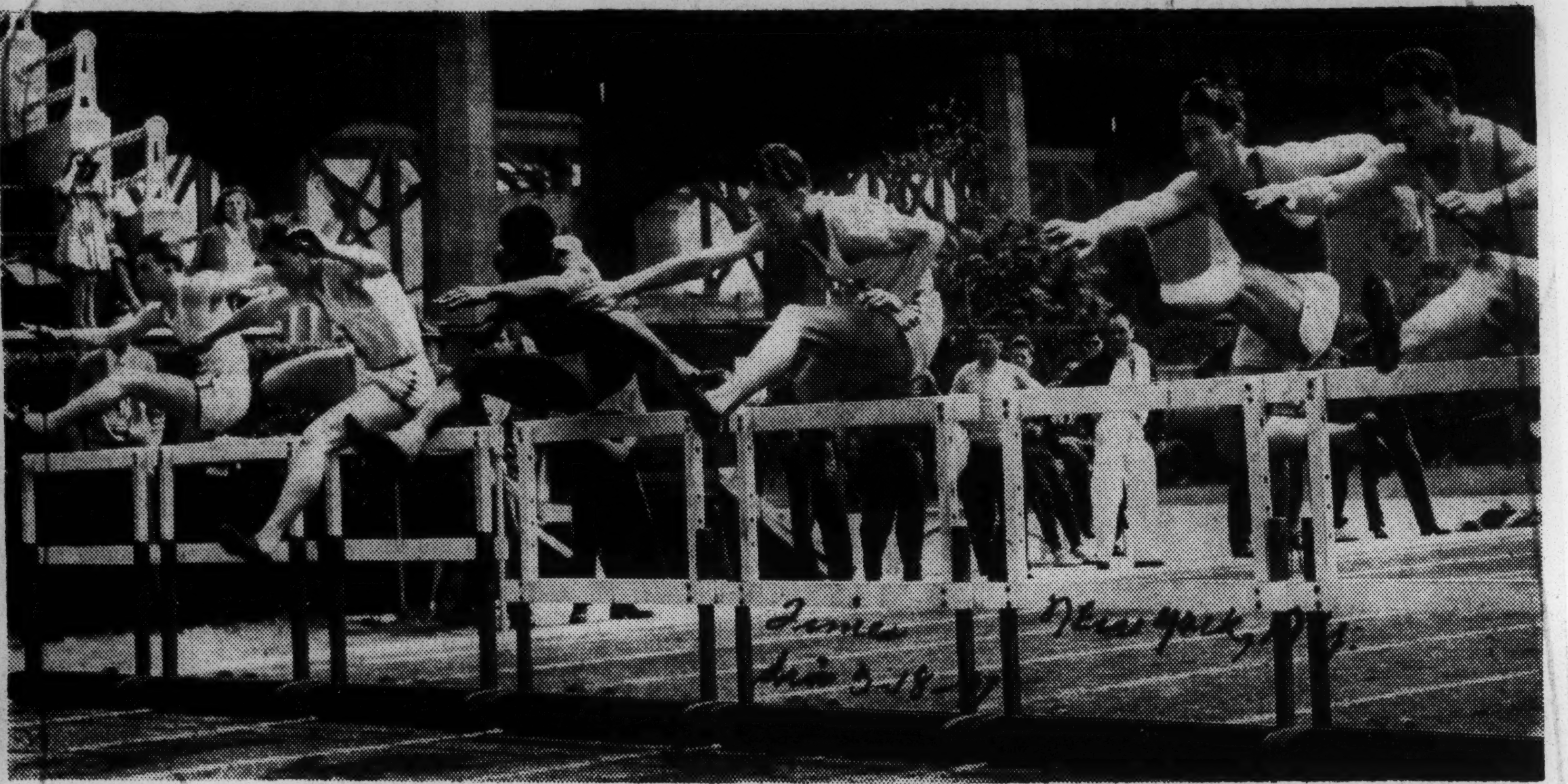
16-Pound Hammer Throw—1, Maxim Padla, N. Y. U., 148 feet; 2, William Brennan, Manhattan, 136 feet 7½ inches; 3, William Eckert, N. Y. U., 130 feet 3 inches; 4, Robert Kalikow, N. Y. U., 128 feet 2½ inches; 5, Norman Blais, Manhattan, 127 feet 1½ inches.

One-Mile Run—1, Edward Walsh, Manhattan; 2, John Flinter, Manhattan; 3, Thomas Comerford, Manhattan; 4, Frank Dixon, N. Y. U.; 5, John O'Hare, Fordham. Time—4:25.0

16-Pound Shot Put—1, Bernard Mayer, N. Y. U., 51 feet; 2, Stanley Lampert, N. Y. U., 50 feet 11 inches; 3, Irving Mondschein, N. Y. U., 47 feet 1½ inches; Sam Klein, Brooklyn College, 47 feet; 5, Mike Fazio, N. Y. U., 45 feet 3½ inches.

880-Yard Run—1, Reginald Pearman, N. Y. U.;

## OVER THE BARRIERS AND RACING TO A RECORD AT TRIBOROUGH STADIUM



**Left to right: Drew, Manhattan; Einsmann, Manhattan; Flournoy, N. Y. U.; Sullivan, Manhattan; MacDonald, N. Y. U., and Byrnes (the winner), Manhattan, taking the first hurdles in 120-yard event at metropolitan intercollegiate championships.**

# Pearman Shatters 880 Mark

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier
Sat. 6-7-47

By JACK SAUNDERS

PHILADELPHIA—The seventy-first annual IC4A championships, held last Friday and Saturday at Franklin Field, again saw America's sepia sons scintillate in superb fashion. They won several individual championships, finished second and third in many others, and helped the New York University "Violets" win the team championship with a total of thirty-six points.

Big surprise and hero of the meet was a diminutive speed merchant, who answers to the name of Fred Johnson, and who was tagged with the sobriquet of "Iron man" Johnson long before the historic event was terminated in a blazing sun. Johnson, by winning the broad jump, 220-yard low hurdles, and finishing second in the 100-yard dash, over-shadowed the brilliant half-mile performance of "Reggie" Pearman, NYU's famous middle-distance ace, and the twin victory scored by Joe Ciancibella, of Manhattan, in the 100-yard dash and 220-yard dash.

Johnson's performances on Friday, when he qualified for the finals in the 100, 220 and broad jump, were great, but could not match the feats which carried him to his two titles and a second place medal on Saturday, when he was pitted against the "cream" of Eastern college athletes.

James H. Johnson, of Temple, after getting a good start in the 120-yard high hurdles semi-finals, faded in the stretch, and was eliminated in the first event Saturday. He finished fifth, in a heat that was won by Sherwood Finley of Yale, in 14.7. William Raney, of Pitt, finished third in his heat of the high hurdles and was eliminated.

**POOREST PERFORMANCE**

Turning in the poorest performance of his career as a college miler, Frank Dixon, of NYU, former national collegiate champion, dropped out on the third leg of the mile after trailing in fifteenth place. The event was won by Gerald Karver, of Penn State, in 4 minutes, 12 seconds.

The only Negro runner to qualify for the finals in the 100-yard dash was Fred Johnson, who finished second in the third heat, that was won by Elliott Hansell of Penn, in 09.9. Eliminated in the dash were, William Morton and Hylton of CCNY, and Homer Gillis of NYU.

George Guida, Villanova's great quarter-miler, captured the 440-yard crown by turning in a sterling performance. His time was a fast 47.5. Finishing third in this event was Reggie Pearman of NYU, who covered the distance in 48.5, three tenths of a second slower than he ran the race in the Penn Relays, when he beat the brilliant Herbert McKenley in the final leg of the mile-relay championships. Pearman's time in that race was 48-flat, while McKenley, who took the baton in fifth place, and, after being bumped at the start, covered the distance in 47.5.

After being denied victory in the 440, Pearman, NYU's favorite son, came back to capture the 880-yard championship in a race that was thrilling from start to finish. The time was, 1.51.5, only three-tenths of a second from Johnny Woodruff's collegiate record.

**PEARMAN SCORES**

Pearmon allowed seven other starters to get the pace for the first quarter, but started pulling up soon thereafter. The leader at that point was Jack Dianetti, standout middle-distance runner from Michigan State. Dianetti, who finished second, held the lead up to the straight-way, when Pearman made his bid. Reggie passed Dianetti twenty yards from the tape, and won by five yards.

Fred Johnson was crowned IC4A champion in the running broad jump, with a leap of 24 feet, seven and three-eighth inches. Second place in this event was annexed by Herbert Douglass of Pitt, who jumped 23 feet, seven and one-half inches. Homer Gillis, of NYU, who made the finals, did not place.

Johnson also took second place in the 100-yard dash, finishing close on the heels of the winner, Joseph Ciancibella, of Manhattan, who was clocked in 09.7. Johnston's time was 09.8. Sat. 6-7-47

Two events later, Johnson, now swiftly developing into the individual star of the meet, came back to win the first semi-final heat of the 220-yard low hurdles in the fast time of 24 seconds-flat. The second semi-finals heat was won by Clarence Doak, of Pitt, in 24.6.

**JOHNSON WINS HURDLES**

Johnson, taking the hurdles a la Dillard, had stiff competition from Doak, but unloosed a burst of speed after the last hurdle that carried him to victory in the 220-yard low hurdles finals. By winning this event in the time of, 23.7, Johnson became the individual high-scorer of the entire meet, winning the broad jump, hurdles and placing second in the 100-yard dash for a total of fourteen points.

William Brown, of Penn State, finished in a tie for second in the pole vault with a leap of 12 feet, six inches.

Bob Hylton, CCNY, finished fourth in the 220-yard dash, that was won by Joe Ciancibella, in 21.4.

By finishing fourth in the mile-relay, New York University picked up two points. Army, the winner, established a new intercollegiate record of 3.14.3. NYU also bettered the college record by running the race in 3.15.2.

NYU, winner of the meet, amassed a total of 36 points. Reggie Pearman, however, was the only individual NYU winner.

The trial heats on Friday saw a galaxy of speia competitors qualify for the finals, with Fred Johnson leading the way. Johnson qualified for the finals in the broad jump, 100-yard dash, and 220-yard low hurdles. His leap of 24 feet, 7, three-eights inches in the broad jump was the best performance of the trials. He won his heat in the 100-yard dash in 0.9.9, and the 220-yard low hurdles in 24.4.

"Reggie" Pearman, of New York University, did the expected by qualifying in the 440-yard and 880-yard runs. In both events, however, he took it easy and finished second.

Other qualifiers were, Herbert Douglass of Pitt, in the 100-yard dash; William Morton, of Pitt, 100-yard dash; Robert Hylton, CCNY, 100-yard dash; Homer Gillis, NYU, 100-yard dash; Hylton, Norton and Milford Parker, NYU, 220-yard dash; Clarence Doak, of Pitt, and Johnson, 220-yard low hurdles, and Gillis and Johnson in the broad jump.

# Reggie Pearman Captures Met 880

NEW YORK—Reginald (Reggie) Pearman, bespectacled NYU distance star and hero of the recent Penn Relays, captured the Metropolitan intercollegiate half-mile title at Randalls Island Saturday. Pearman had little difficulty trouncing a field which included Bill Atkinson, Manhattan, Jerry Connolly, Fordham, and Joe Nowicki, Fordham, all white.

R. Pearman

Though winning by 12 yards and unextended throughout, the Violet ace covered the distance in the record-breaking time of 1:54.2. The old mark of 1:54.8 was set by Leslie MacMitchell, white, of NYU, in 1940.

Pearman also anchored the victorious Violet mile-relay team, which ran Maurice (Twin) Callender in the No. 3 position.

Homer Gillis was second in the broad jump and Frank Dixon was runner-up in the two-mile test. All are NYU color-bearers.

51L 1947

General

# Mich. State Frosh Star Steals Show

*Afro-American Baltimore, Md.*

*Sat. 6-7-47*

## Violets Win Easily But Fred Johnson Is Top Point-Getter

By FRANKLIN BROWER

New York University's strong track and field team, albeit runnning a little below form, regained the title it last held in 1943, Saturday, when it captured first place in the 71st annual Intercollegiate AAAA championships at Franklin Field before 10,000 onlookers.

Scoring in 13 of the 16 events on the program, which had opened Friday with qualifying performances, the Violets rolled up 36 points, thus breaking the Naval Academy's three-year stranglehold on the outdoor crown and topping the field of 42 entries by a comfortable margin.

**Johnson Double Winner**

Michigan State's "dark horse" team, sparked by Fred Johnson's double-victory, followed the New Yorkers with 25 points. Harvard and Penn State, each of whom had 24 points, and Manhattan, with 21, were the only other schools that made appreciable bids for top honors. *Sat. 6-7-47*

While winning easily, NYU did not live up to expectations in several events, and its bespectacled middle-distance ace, Reginald Pearman, who was expected to emerge as the meets individual star, proved a minor disappointment.

**Pearman Fails**

Upset in the 440-yard run, Pearman partially redeemed himself by turning in the fastest half-mile of the year in collegiate competition. His winning time of 1:15.5 was only three-tenths of a second off the meet record set by Pittsburgh's Long John Woodruff in 1939.

George Guida, white, of Villanova College, won the quarter-mile in 0:47.5, shading Army's Jack Hammack, white. Pearman, who finished third, was clocked in 0:48.3, considerably slower than the time expected of him.

The NYU Olympic prospect, who had gained national prominence when he anchored NYU relay combinations to two victories over Illinois in the Penn Relays, was expected to run the final leg on the mile team, but was taken off in a last minute move, apparently to improve his chances in the individual 440 and 880.

**Sets New Mark**

Without him, the Violet mile team could do no better than finish fourth behind Army, Navy and Seton Hall. However, the times of each of these four teams bettered the NYU meet record for the distance. Army's victorious quartet negotiated the distance in 3:14.3. The old mark of 3:16 was established in 1940 by a Violet foursome anchored by Jimmy Herbert.

Warren Halliburton, who was expected to win the 220-yard low hurdles for the NYU, was forced to withdraw from the meet when he suffered a leg injury while warming up before the qualifying heats. *Sat. 6-7-47*

With Halliburton on the shelf, Johnson, an ex-Marine, took low hurdles honors in 0:23.7, but only after repulsing a strong bid for victory by Clarence Doak, University of Pittsburgh star.

**Johnson Top Man**

That triumph made Johnson the meet's top point-producer with 14. Earlier he had won the broad jump with an effort of 24 feet, 7¾ inches, and finished a close second to Joseph Cianciabello, of Manhatten, white, in the 100. Cianciabello, also winner in the 220, captured the shorter dash in 0:9.7.

Pitt's Herb Douglas, the defending champion in the broad jump and 100-yard dash, finished second to Johnson in the field event, but was eliminated in the semifinals of the century.

William Brown, Penn State sophomore, cleared 12 feet, 6 inches to tie with three other athletes for second place in the pole vault. The event was won by Harvard's Peter Harwood, who achieved a height of 13 feet.

HIGH POINT MAN—His arms akimbo, Fred Johnson, Michigan State athlete, paused for this closeup after scoring 14 points at the IC4A track meet on Franklin Field in Philadelphia last week. Johnson won the broad jump and 220-yard low hurdles, and took second place in the 100-yard dash.

# McKenley's 'Double' Highlight of Victory

*Afro-American Baltimore, Md.*

*Sat. 6-7-47*

## Jamaican Takes 220 and 440 Titles; Billy Mathis Grabs 'Century' Dash

EVANSTON, Ill.—University of Illinois, paced by long-striding, Jamaica-born Herb McKenley captured its third consecutive Big Nine track and field championship in a rout here Saturday.

The Illini, with McKenley taking the 220- and 440-yard titles, garnered 62½ points, 39 more than its nearest rival, Wisconsin, with Ohio State and Michigan tied for third.

The winners strutted to six first places and shared a seventh. In 14 events, they were shut out but twice. *Sat. 6-7-47*

Augmenting the performance of McKenley was Billy Mathis's triumph in the 100-yard dash and the mile relay win, annexed by a foursome which included both Mathis and McKenley.

McKenley's feat was an exact duplication of that performed last year. In 1946, however, he turned in a record-breaking 46.2 seconds for the quarter, and Saturday's time was 47.4 against a headwind guaged at 8.12 miles per hour. He was 15 yards ahead of his nearest pursuer at the finish.

The West Indian sensation was caught in 21.6 seconds in his 220-yard score, well behind the mark of 20.3 seconds which Jesse Owens consumed in 1936 to set a conference and world mark. In this event, his runner-up, Indiana's Chuck Peters, was four yards distant at the wire.

**Mathis Takes 100**

Mathis copped the 100-yard dash in the creditable time of 9.8 seconds. In doing so, he succeeded Lloyd LaBeach, fellow-countryman of McKenley, who gained the crown in 1946 only to fail in his scholastic work and be dropped from school. *Sat. 6-7-47*

One record was set during the afternoon. That was acquired by Charles (Chuck) Fonville, brilliant weight man of University of Michigan. Fonville heaved the 16-pound ball 54 feet, 1 inch to better the mark set by Bill Watson, also of Michigan, in 1938 Watson's old record was 52 feet, 11½ inches.

# Hurdle Champ at Peak in Chi Meet

*Afro-American Baltimore, Md.*

*Sat. 4-5-47*

## Matches Records in 40, 50 and 60-Yard Timber Event Series

By STAFF CORRESPONDENT

CHICAGO, Ill.—Harrison Dillard, national outdoor and indoor hurdles champion, turned in the amazing feat of equalling three world marks in the high hurdles series of the annual Chicago Relays here Saturday night.

The Baldwin-Wallace College ace sped to record-equalling times in the 40-yard, 50-yard and 60-yard tests, matching the best clocking ever turned in each of these events as he swept the field and won plaudits as the outstanding individual performer of the meet.

His achievement stamped him as the biggest star of a star-studded program, in which Gil Dodds, the great white miler, and Billy Mathis, national outdoor sprint champion, also clicked off sparkling times in the mile and 50-yard sprint test respectively.

Dillard competed in a select field at 40, 50, and 60 yards. There were three, four, and five hurdles in that order for the distances. In each race. Dillard tied the world

record. One such mark might have sufficed. Three marks definitely tabbed Dillard as the world's best.

Dillard covered the 40-yard hurdles in 5 seconds. He ran the 50-yard hurdles on 6 1/0 seconds and finished with a mark of 7 2/10 seconds for the 60-yard hurdles.

**Mathis Ties Record, Too**

Bill Mathis, formerly of Illinois, equaled the meet record of :05.2 for the 50-yard sprint.

Herb McKenley, Illinois' world record holder at 440 yards, failed in defense of his championship at 600 yards. He ran third behind Elmore Harris of Long Branch, N.J., and George Guida of Villanova College.

Harris broke on top at the start but soon was passed by McKenley who set the pace until the final lap. Harris then bounded ahead to recapture the crown which he won in 1945. McKenley lost stride in the final yards and finished nearly five feet behind Guida, who was 10 feet behind Harris. The time was 1:11.7, far off the relays record of 1:10.8 set by McKenley last year.

**Illini Quartet Gains Revenge**

McKenley came back to run the second leg of the mile relay in which Illinois avenged its defeat in the Western Conference indoor meet, beating Ohio State. The time of 3:20.3 was the fastest of the night's mile relay series, but was 1.6 seconds slower than the meet record.

It proved to be another of the many occasions on which McKenley, a world-record holder, proved incapable of beating Harris, a journeyman runner who holds no records but whips his fields consistently. Sat. 4-5-47

HIGH JUMP — Won by Taylor, Western Michigan, 6 feet 5 inches; Eddleman, Illinois; ALBRITTON, Dayton, Ohio, and Whitney, unattached, tied for second, 6 feet 4 inches.

50-YARD DASH—Won by MATHIS, unattached; Houden, Wisconsin, second; EWELL, unattached, third. Time: :05.2. (Ties meet record established by Herbert Thompson of Jersey City, N.J., in 1942.)

40-YARD HIGH HURDLES—Won by DILLARD, Baldwin-Wallace; Wright, Ohio State, second; Taylor, Western Michigan, third; DUGGER, Dayton, Ohio, fourth. Time: :05. (Ties indoor world record established by Fred Wolcott of Houston, Tex., in 1942.)

50-YARD HIGH HURDLES—Won by DILLARD; Taylor, second; Wright, third; DUGGER, fourth. Time: :06.1. (Ties world record established by Bob Wright of Ohio State in 1941.)

60-YARD HURDLES—Won by DILLARD; Taylor, second; DUGGER, third. Time: 07.2. (Ties world record established by Fred Wolcott in 1941 and tied by Charles Hlad in 1942.)

MILE RELAY — Won by Illinois (WALKER, McKENLEY, Vranek, Rehberg); Ohio State, second. Time: 3:20.3.

600-YARD RUN—Won by HARRIS, Long Branch, N.J.; Guida, Villanova, second; McKENLEY, Illinois, third. Time: 1:11-7.

**FLIES THRU THE AIR—to three record-equalling high hurdles titles in annual Chicago Relays. It's Harrison Dillard, Baldwin-Wallace College's national timber-topping champion, who has established himself as perhaps the greatest hurdler of all time.** Sat. 4-5-47

Baltimore, Md.

# Conwell Breaks Mark in British Sprint

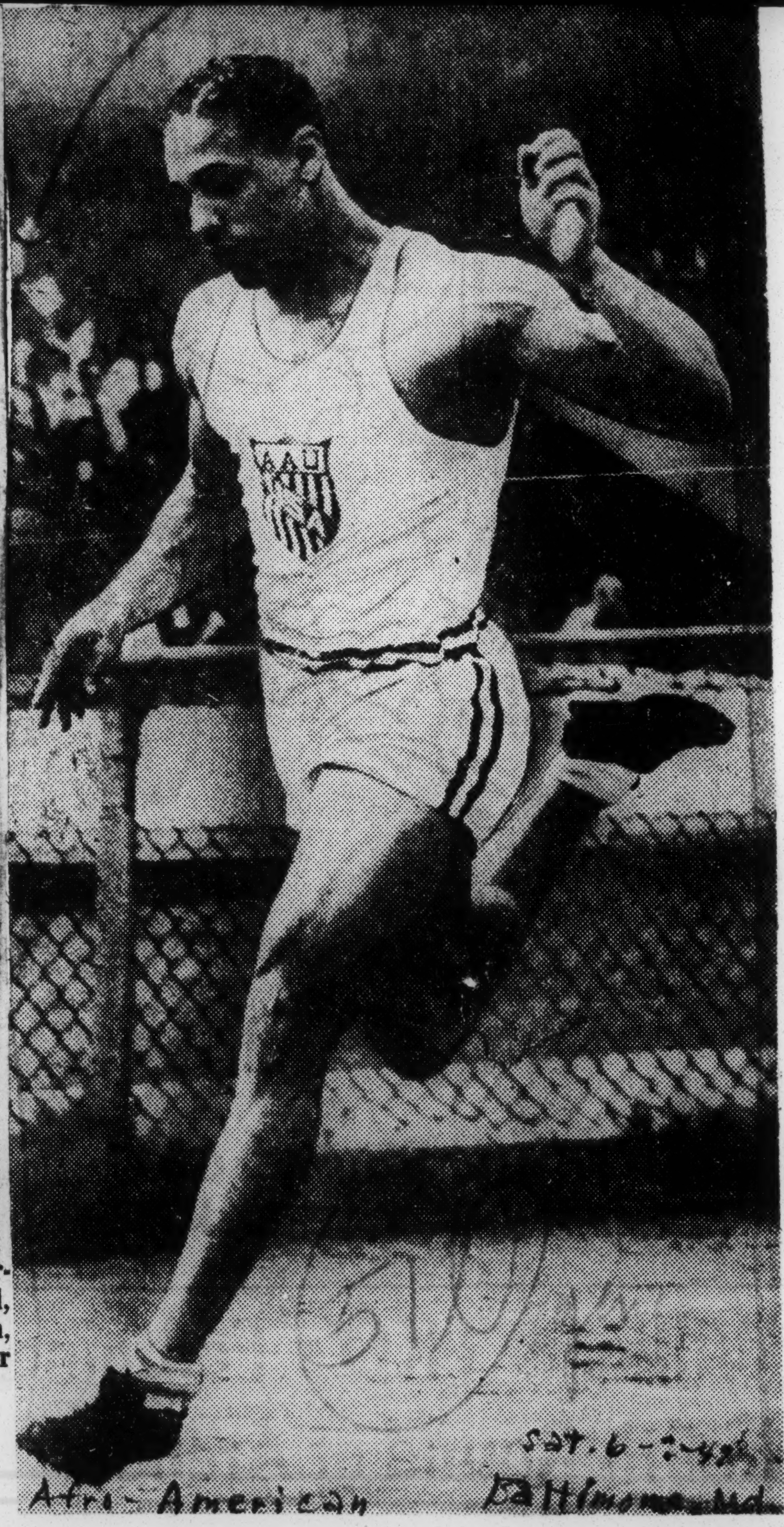
Afro-American Sat. 6-7-47

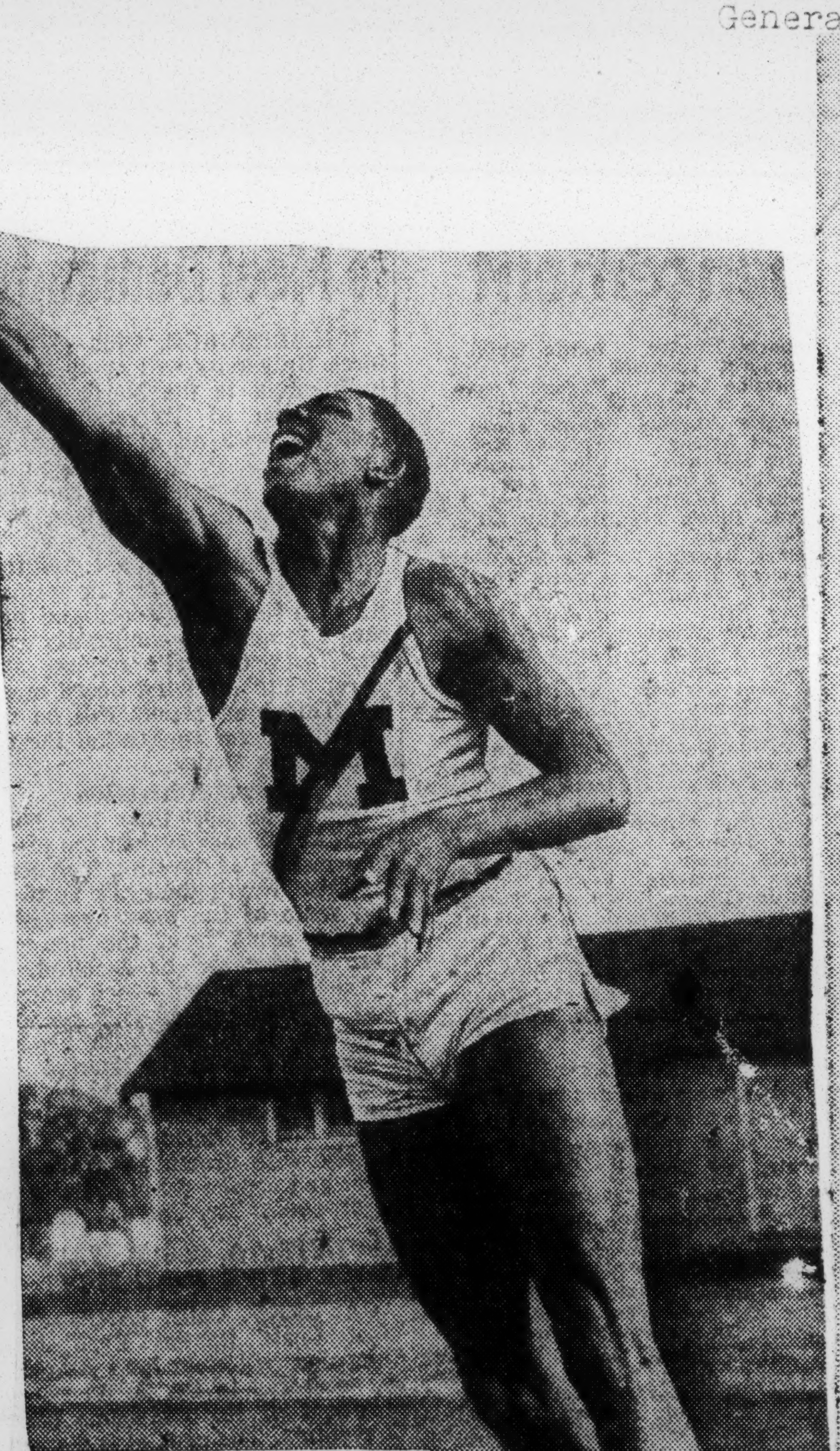
LONDON — Eddie Conwell, former national indoor 60-yard champion and ex-New York University speed ace, clipped one-tenth of a second off the British mark for the 100yard dash in White City Stadium on Monday. Sat. 6-7-47

The New Jersey undertaker stole the show of the British track and field games, fore-runner of the 1948 Olympics, to be held in this same stadium, by hitting the tape in 9.6 seconds. His effort lowered the mark set by E. H. Liddell, white. Conwell had a three-yard advantage over Alan Watt and D. Knight at the finish.

British cinder officials said the Conwell clocking would have to await investigation before it can be honored. These investigations are based on wind velocity and track conditions.

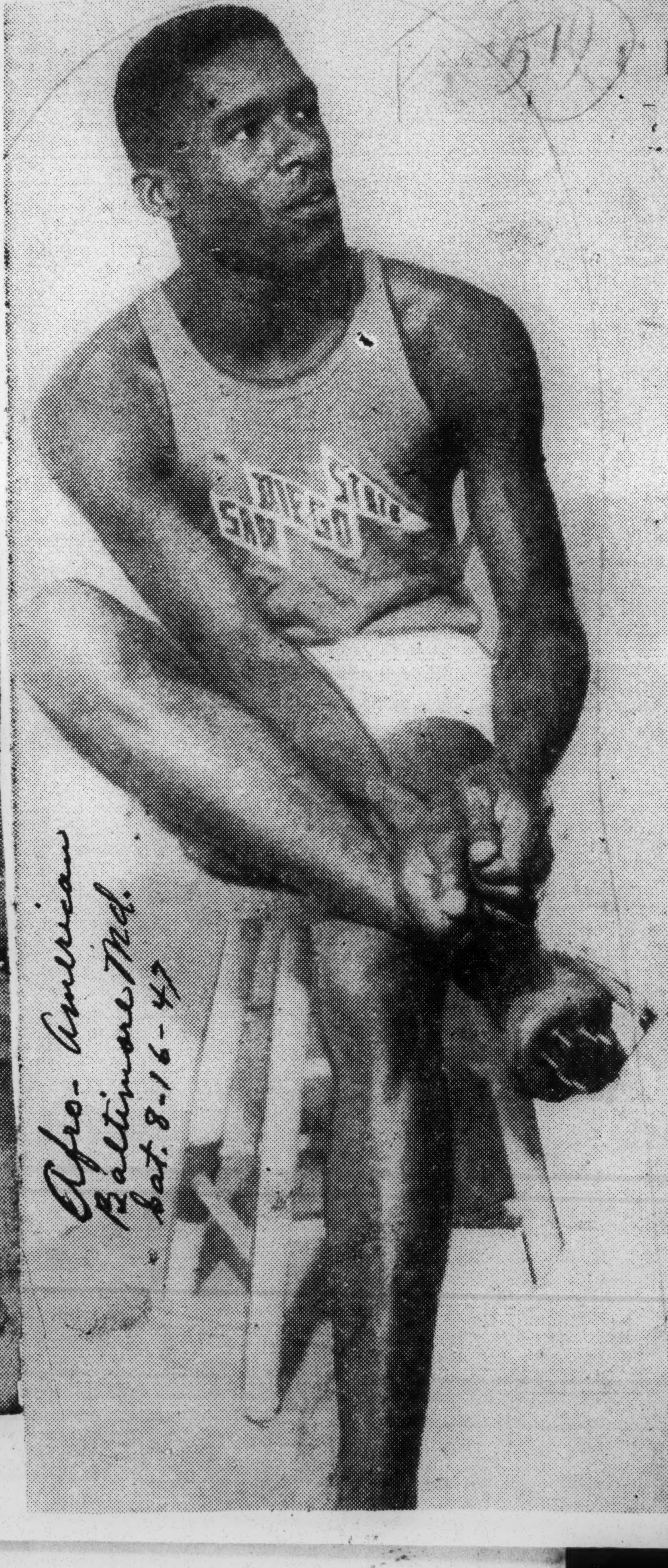
The games were witnessed by a crowd of 60.000.





**IN DEADLOCK** — William Brown, Penn State pole vaulter, achieved a height of 12 feet, 6 inches and tied with three other athletes for second place in the IC4A track meet in Philadelphia last week. Harvard's Peter Harwood soared 13 feet to win the title.

**RECORD SMASHER** — Charley (Chuck) Fonville, Michigan weight star, who cracked the Big Nine shotput record with a heave of 54 feet, 1 inch at Evanston, Ill., Saturday. Previous mark of 52 feet, 11½ inches was set by Bill Watson, also of Michigan, in 1938.



Afro-American
Baltimore Md.
Sat. 8-16-47

**OLYMPIC HOPE**—Top broad jumper in the U.S. is Willie Steele of San Diego State College (Calif.), who is almost assured of a berth on the U.S. Olympic team next year. He's 22 and a veteran.

# He Can't Be Stopped

By SAM LACY

The nation's broad jumpers are scratching their heads over Willie Steele, 22 year-old Army veteran. They're wondering what makes him go and, likewise, what'll make him stop.

Last month, at Lincoln, Neb., they were sure they'd get their answer. The San Diego State College sophomore came up to the National AAU track and field championships with a blister on his heel the size of a golf ball. If anything was to beat him (since they couldn't), certainly this painful blister would do the trick.

**Blister no Trouble**

But it didn't. Fact of the matter was, he had jumped nearly all season with that same blister, and it hadn't stopped him before. They were aware of its presence on his right heel from the day in early May when it developed right after an outdoor meet at Stockton, Cal.

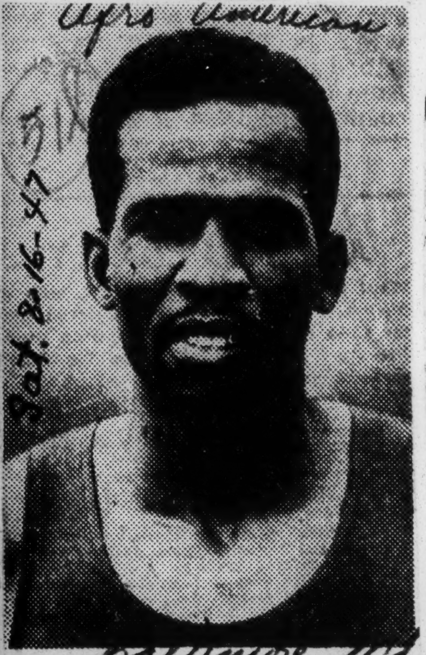
When Steele went right on winning the jump in meet after meet, his disillusioned rivals were at their wits end.

**Made Record Jump**

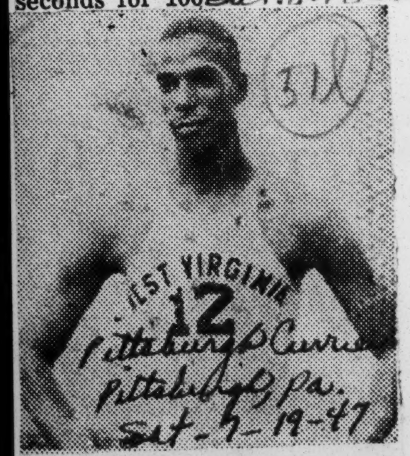
When the nationals came he was

Afro-American Sat. 8-16-47 (51L)

still in front. Steele took on jaunt down the University o Nebraska runway, hit the take-of slab and hurtled out into spac over the sawdust pit. The tape measure showed 24 feet, 9¼ inches It was enough.



**THE FACE OF HIM** — Finally caught still long enough for a picture, E. McDonald Bailey, the British Empire's fastest human presents his face to you. Born in Trinidad, he's son of a school-teacher, is 27, and formerly a member of the RAF. On Tuesday, he equalled for a second time his own British Empire record of 9.6 seconds for 100.




**RUNNING HIGH**—Charles (Bergy) Burghart, star hurdler at West Virginia State College, recently copped Chicago's Central AAU 400 meter hurdle in 0:53.7 and placed third in the high hurdles.

The New York Times N.Y. N.Y.

# Sports of the Times

Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

By ARTHUR DALEY

## Awaiting the Nationals

Thur-7-3-47

THIS being the pre-Olympic year, the tempo of all Olympic sports is speeding up at an ever-increasing rate until it reaches a crescendo pitch some twelve months hence. The National A.A.U. track and field championships will be staged at Lincoln, Neb., tomorrow and Saturday as the battle for places on our expeditionary force to London next July begins in earnest.

Although it's not exactly correct to say that America's biggest and most important footracing carnival will give us a line on our future Olympians, the temptation always is strong to do precisely that. However, we've always had such a superabundance of talent that no one can tell from day to day who will make the team. It's impossible to do so a full year in advance.

If you have no objection to back-tracking slightly, you can get the point more forcefully by glancing at two meets which were run within eight days of each other in 1936. The first was the National A.A.U. championships at Princeton and the second was the final Olympic tryouts at Randalls Island Stadium. The natural assumption would be that any man who could win a national crown certainly would be able to make the American Olympic team.

Yet ours is the only country in the world where it doesn't always work out that way. George Varoff not only won the pole vault but also set a new world record. He virtually had one foot on the gangplank for the boat trip to Berlin—or so it seemed. Yet he finished fourth in the tryouts and had to postpone his Berlin visit for many years until he finally made it as a bomber pilot.

### Long John Arrives

Charlie Beetham looked invincible in the nationals as he beat back the 800-meter threat of a gangling Negro youth few folks ever heard of, a University of Pittsburgh freshman named Long John Woodruff. But in the tryouts Beetham stumbled and missed the boat. Woodruff sailed on serenely to victory at Randalls Island and later at the Reichsportfeld outside Berlin.

The experts already are talking about Reggie Pearman of New York University as "another John Woodruff." Maybe he is. But even victory for him in the meet which is being run by that affable Lincoln banker, Samuel Clark Waugh, won't necessarily mean that Reggie should rush out and invest in a passport for use next year. This footracing game presents too many slips twixt cup and lip.

Perhaps some of the less publicized members of the cast will be hogging the headlines a season hence. It happened thus in the last pre-Olympic show that Banker Waugh and his committee staged in Lincoln a dozen years ago. The preliminary meet to the big senior championships is the junior games, the juniors providing the spawning grounds for the stars of the future.

The junior winners remain anonymous enough but the non-winners are ignored. Back in 1935 the runner-up in the junior 800 was a certain John Woodruff and the runner-up in the high hurdles was a certain Forrest Towns of the University of Georgia. Twelve months later each was an Olympic champion.

Long John won his crown the hard way, getting himself pocketed, dropping back to last and running the dizziest race imaginable. But he fought off Mario Lanzi of Italy at the wire to give the United States its first Olympic 800-meter title in twenty-four years or since Ted Meredith triumphed at Stockholm in 1912. Long John never even changed expression or smiled when he won. Towns, however, more than made up for Woodruff's restraint.

### His Own Cheer Leader

The lean and muscular Georgian streaked over the sticks like a humming bird on the wing and smashed the world record in a masterful display of hurdling skill. Towns burst through the tape ahead of Doug Finlay of Great Britain and then slowed down quickly. As the phlegmatic Britisher caught up with him, the delighted American fetched his rival an exuberant clout on the back that almost knocked over the emotionless son of John Bull. Towns shook hands with Finlay, with the othetr contestants, with the officials and with every front-row spectator in reach. He danced a jig of joy.

This reporter visited him in the dressing room beneath those cavernous stands. As the door opened, the scene was vivid and unforgettable. The Georgia lad was sitting all alone on a bench, throwing his shoes up in the air. "Yippee!" he yelled as he caught a shoe and threw it up again. "Yippee! Ah won!" He dashed across the room to shake hands. "Brother, how about it? Imagine me an Olympic champion! Yippee!" He probably hasn't calmed down yet.

But that's the way it goes. No spectator at Lincoln will have the foggiest idea as to which of the hundreds of athletes he'll be seeing will be an Olympic winner at London next summer. Even the 1935 spectators there weren't any too sure. The big star of the meet was supposed to be Jesse Owens, fresh from cracking four world records in an afternoon.

However, Owens elected to compete in just two events, the hundred and the broad jump. He was beaten in the century by Eulace Peacock and in the jump by that same Eulace Peacock, both in world record figures. Yet a year later Peacock failed to make the American Olympic team. Owens did and his performances as the leader of the "Black American Auxiliaries"—or so the Nazi press sneeringly referred to our Negro stars—contributed the most striking chapter in Olympic history.

The Nebraska folk will be looking at chaps who will be wearing laurel wreaths on their heads at London next year. The catch is, though, that they've not yet been identified as Olympic champions.

51L 1947

General

# Negro Track Stars Have Led the Pack

Daily Worker 51L 1947

New York, N.Y.

By BILL MARDO

Sat. 2-15-47

**TO LIST** the achievements of Negro track performers would require a special volume, bound in gold, not a few short pages of copy from this typewriter. For aside from boxing, there is no other sport to compare with the manner in which Negro runners have so completely dominated the field.

So, if you'll forgive the sketchiness and omissions of necessity, we'll try and just recall a few gents, or giants in the world of track. . . .

Do you remember:

**A lad named Jesse Owens, hmm? Bet you do—you and a few million others. Because if one name ever became synonymous with sprinting genius, it was the name of this slim speedster who came out of Eastern Technical High School in Cleveland, onto Ohio State and immortality.**

After shattering record after record, came the Berlin Olympics. Yes, came the Berlin Olympics when one Hitler was screaming to the mountain tops of Aryan supremacy, Negro and Jewish inferiority, and what have you.

So here's what brother Owens did to Hitler's fine "theories":

**Berlin, Aug. 3, 1936.**—Won Olympic 100-meters in 10.3 equalling the world and Olympic record. One yard behind Jesse in that record-shattering performance was another "inferior," Ralph Metcalfe.

**Berlin, Aug. 4.**—Owens copped the Olympic broad jump championship with a record-setting leap of 26 feet, 5 21/64 inches.

**Berlin, Aug. 5.** — Owens busted Olympic 200-meters mark in 21.2, to set a new world record.

**Berlin, Aug. 9.**—Teamed up with his Negro colleague Ralph Metcalfe, plus Frank Wykoff and Foy Draper, Owens helped the U. S. squad win the 400-meter title in 40 seconds flat, tying the world record.

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That's all, folks. Of course if you want me to list all of the sprint records Owens set in the U. S. prior to the Olympics, you'll just give me about two-months off to compile the stuff, eh?

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**EDDIE TOLAN is another name destined for the dusty archives of trackdom's greatest. One of the top highlights in the brilliant career of this Negro sprinter was his 100-meter race in the 1932 Olympics held at Los Angeles. Eddie and Ralph Metcalfe wound up in a blazing dead-heat and only the timer's electric clock revealed that Tolan had nipped his Marquette rival. That race was the first time a Negro runner had copped the 100-meters, and in so doing, Eddie brought the title back to the U. S. after a 12-year lapse, and set a new Olympic mark of 10.3 in the process of so doing.**

The next day, Tolan and Metcalfe again put on one of their hair-raising races in the 200-meter dash, and again it was Tolan by a whisker.

**Yes, that was quite a rocket in the person of little bespectacled Eddie Tolan. By the time he turned pro, he had won 293 of his 300 races. Today Tolan sport-edits THE MICHIGAN HERALD, a fighting people's weekly in the midwest.**

Daily Worker

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**THE OLD CONTROVERSY** used to rage as to who was better of the two, Toland or Metcalfe. Some point to Eddie's two Olympic wins over the Marquette Marvel—yet others remember the superb comeback Metcalfe scored in the 1936 Olympics when he helped Jesse Owens shove a lot of something or other right down Hitler's throat.

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**AND YET track students won't ever forget one of Metcalfe's finest performances which came two months before the '32 Olympics. On June 11 of that year, Ralph ripped the world's mark for 220 yards, 100 and 200 meters, and tied Tolan's record 100-yard record in the burning 9.5 time.**

Such was the likes of Ralph Metcalfe.

Sat. 2-15-47

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**BEN JOHNSON** was another famed sprinter. Columbia's track captain, Johnson even toppled Jesse Owens' 60-yard mark when he whizzed to the tape in 60-seconds flat.

New York, N.Y.

51L 1947

Herb McKenley

# McKenley Scorns U. S. Citizenship

*Daily World Atlanta, Ga.*

CHICAGO—(ANP)— Citing undemocratic color bars in the United States which do not exist in his native Jamaica, U of Illinios sprinter Herb McKenley explains in an article, "One Fast Man" currently appearing in the February issue of Negro Digest, exactly why he turns down invitations to citizensship of this country. *Thurs.*

McKenley who holds 3 world's sprint records and is attending college in the U. S. to study campus jim crow, states: *1-16-47*

"It's not that I don't like the United States. But in Jamaica we have one important thing you do not have here. We have democracy between the races. No color line."

As this sports feature written by Mark Harris, author of "Trumpet to the World," reveals McKenley was also forced into track competition against his will.

Physical education was compulsory at the Calabar High school which the tan tornado attended in Jamaica. McKenley's teacher had to use strict discipline to make him even try out the cinder path. Says Harris:

"So the kid dragged himself out on the cinders, crouched as he had seen others do, and then let himself go.

"Nobody's been able to catch him since."

*Thurs.*

But as far as his citizenship is concerned, McKenley will remain a loyal Jamaican and work toward the eventual independence of his birthplace. *1-16-47*

# Herb McKenley Breaks Another World's Record

*Atlanta Daily World Thurs 3-18-47 Atlanta, Ga.*

CHICAGO, Ill. — (N N P A) — Hero McKenley of the University of Illinois set a new world's record for the 300 yard run here Friday night, wearing a pair of borrowed shoes.

Running in the fourth heat of the Central AAU meet at the University of Chicago field house, McKenley was clocked by two of the three official timers at 30.3 seconds to clip nine tenths of a second off the 25 year old indoor record Allan Woodring set in Buffalo, New York, in 1922.

McKenley who also holds the world's outdoor record for the 440 year run and is a co-holder of the American track record for the 600 yard indoor sprint, was relaxing in his dressing room Friday night waiting for his race to be called when his specially constructed track shoes were stolen from beside his bench. *3-18-47*

The Jamaican borrowed a pair of track shoes, went out and set the new world mark, then announced his retirement for competition in the finals because he was scheduled to run Saturday night in the Illinois Tech games. Officials said his withdrawal from the finals would not affect his application for the approval of the new record.

# Herb McKenley Shatters "440" Record Again

*Atlanta, Ga. Daily World Thurs. 7-3-47*

BERKLEY, Calif.— (NNPA) — For the second time in as many weeks, Herb McKenley, the Illinois speedster, broke the world's record for the 440-yard dash, running the event in 46.3 seconds here last Saturday after being clocked for the same distance in 46.2 seconds at Salt Lake City a week previous.

McKenley, runnng under the colors of the Illinois, had no opposition in the all-star track and field meet which saw stars of the Big Nine triumph over Pacific Coast Confernece rivals. *Thurs. 7-3-47*

Four clocks caught him in the 46.2 time which bettered by two tenths of a second, the accepted world mark, of 46.4, held jointly by Ben Eastman of Stanford and Grover Klemer of California.

Following his record breaking run in the quarter, McKenley was clocked again in 46.3 in running his lap in the mile relay which the Big nine team won.

A crowd of 13,000 cheered McKinley to his record breaking runs.

# McK[...] And Loses in Coast Meet

*Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier*

**By J. CULLEN FENTRESS**

LOS ANGELES—The University of Southern California track and field squad scored an upset 73-49 dual meet victory over the University of Illinois here last Saturday at Memorial Coliseum before 29,879 spectators, the largest crowd to witness a dual meet in the country.

Magnet, of course, was Herb McKenley, the Illini's great quarter-miler, claimant to the world's record at 46.2 seconds.

McKenley won his specialty, the 440, by seven yards. Hubie Kerns and Wells DeLoach of Southern California were second and third, respectively. Time was 47.2 seconds, a new meet record.

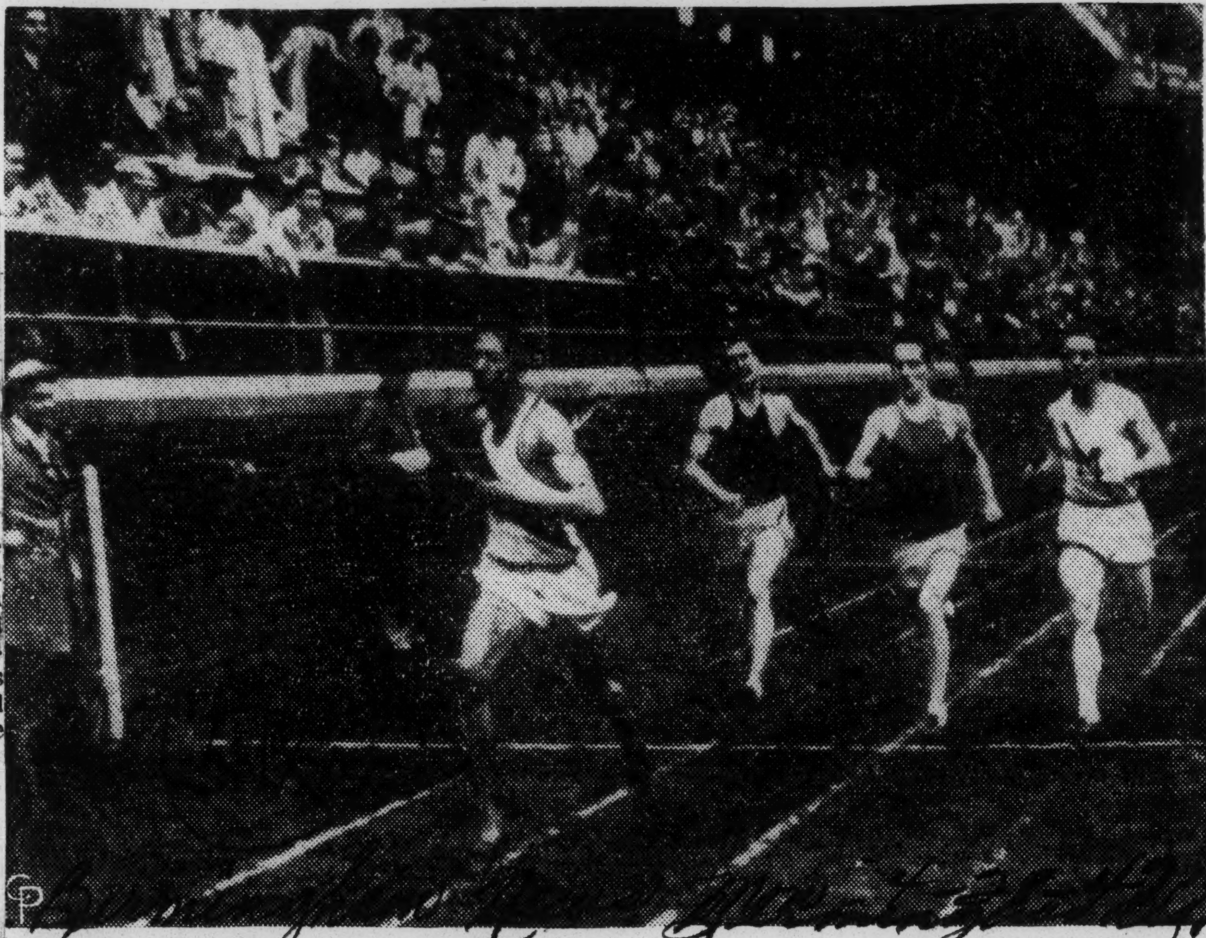
He was beaten in the feature attraction of the day by Southern Cal's Mel Patton. That was the 220-yard dash. *Sat. 5-10-47*

On comparatively even terms for the first seventy-five yards, Patton drew away to win handily in 20.4 seconds. McKenley was second and Bill Cook of Illinois was third. The time broke the Coliseum record of 20.7 set by Jesse Owens, Ohio State, in 1935, equaled Patton's own S. C. Trojan record established this year and McKenley's Illini standard.

Later, McKenley told the Coast Bureau that because he had beaten Patton before he was surprised at Mel's improvement in the past year. He is, therefore, looking forward to the NCAA meet in Salt Lake City, and he added that he will compete in the Compton Relays here.

Turning point of last Saturday's meet undoubtedly was in the hurdles. *Sat. 5-10-47*

George Walker, of the Illini, was doped to win both the high and low hurdle events. In the highs he tripped over the first hurdle, pulled a muscle and withdrew. He was scratched from the lows.



*Birmingham, Ala. ... 5-...*

FINISH OF PENN RELAYS QUARTER-MILE—Herb McKenley, Illinois speedster, is shown crossing the finish line in the quarter-mile event of the Penn Relays at Franklin Field, Philadelphia. Coming in behind McKenley (from left) are Don Schneider, of Penn; Ira Kaplan, N. Y. U., who placed second, and John Quigley, Manhattan, who finished third.

## JACK SAUNDERS—A Man Named McKenley

*Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier*

PHILADELPHIA—Hottest thing in track at this juncture is Herbert McKenley, elongated speed merchant, who's breaking all kind of records for the University of Illinois. One month hence, April 25 and 26, the annual Penn Relays Carnival will be held at Franklin Field. If Illinois enters a team vanguarded by McKenley, a record crowd will converge on the stadium which seats upwards of 70,000. Consequently, H. Jamison Swartz, carnival director, is doing everything possible to woo the Illinois team East. The clamor for the return of the lanky 220, 300 and 440 yards and 400 metre champion has been on the upsurge since he anchored the "Illini" to a mile championship with a 46.9 quarter last year. Since that time McKenley has broken all existing quarter mile records with a 46.2 performance, and is rated the man best fitted to run the distance in 46-flat . . You, therefore, can see why a man named McKenley is wanted to run in the Penn Relays. *Sat. 3-22-47*

## McKenley . . . a Man Without a Country . . .

**Herb McKenley, the "Jamaican Jogger," is the outstanding track man in the country. In the NCAA championships at Salt Lake City he set a new record for the 440, galloping over the distance in 46.2. He is also holder of the NCAA 220 title with a mark of 20.7.** *Sat 7-5-47*

**During these days and times, whenever a fleet-footed youngster appears on the horizon, it is only natural to measure him as an Olympic prospect. With the big event just one year away, everyone is looking for good material for the American team. McKenley, however, is not to be considered as American material. Although he is a student at the University of Illinois, and has led that school's great team down many a victory path in the past two years, Herb hails from Jamaica, in the British West Indies. He is, therefore, a British subject and will automatically be ineligible for the American team.**

**It goes without saying that the American Olympic Committee would like to have the long, lean galloper to represent us in London next year. But Herb will be running against Americans rather than with them. The big question now is: For whom will he run? It will hardly be Jamaica. That country, it is reported, is not financially able to send a team to London. It will not be for England. The English do not pick up athletes from their dominions. So, big Herb finds himself running in the dark these days. He is, without a doubt, the track star of the year. The Olympics are just around the corner, and yet, he hasn't a country to run for. It may be that Canada will adopt him and he'll zoom over the 440 in the Olympics under her colors. But as the situation stands now, Herb McKenley is a man without a country.**

# FOREIGN ATHLETES POSE A. A. U. ISSUE

## Proposal to Keep Them From Holding U. S. Titles Is on Agenda of Convention

*New York Times*

A renewed proposal to restrict

the competition by foreign athletes in the United States' national championships is one of the twenty-nine amendments to the constitution, by-laws and general rules to be considered by the Amateur Athletic Union at its fifty-ninth convention at Omaha, Neb., Dec. 5-7. Sun. 11-23-47

The proposal, which has come up before and always has been voted down, provides that "non-resident athletes shall be permitted to take part in national championships but such places, points, championships or trophies as ordinarily would be awarded for their performance shall not be awarded to them.

"United States competitors shall be awarded places, points, championships and trophies without consideration of the performances of non-resident athletes."

**May Receive Trophies**

The proposal added that "heats will be so arranged that the presence of non-resident competitors shall not preclude a qualified resident competitor from advancing in any competition. Proper trophies shall be awarded to non-resident competitors but they shall not be awarded any points or championships."

Most other nations do not open their national title meets to foreign competitors. During the past year, two foreign athletes have captured national A.A.U. championships.

Herbert McKenley, a citizen of Jamaica, won the 400-meter run in the outdoor track and field championships, and Miss Nel Van Vliet of the Netherlands won two breast-stroke titles in the women's outdoor swimming championships.

Another major proposal would reverse last year's action and abandon the international rule on ties and dead heats. It now is suggested that they be permitted to stand, with points and prizes to be split among the deadlocked competitors. Sun. 11-23-47

A motion will be heard that a starting gate, a mechanical device to prevent false starts invented by Coach Ben Ogden of Temple, be recognized as legal equipment. The convention also will vote on a proposal that the president and other elective officers be limited to two successive one-year terms, with the proviso that they may be eligible for office again after a two-year lapse.

Proposals regarding swimming and wrestling rules also are scheduled for consideration.

# Jesse Owens, Health Expert, At Melrose High

Atlanta Daily World 3-18-47
Atlanta, Ga.

MEMPHIS, TENN. -(SNS)- The students of Melrose High School enjoyed a treat that comes rarely in the life of a high school pupil, Wednesday, March 12 when they were addressed by Jesse Owens triple Olympic winner and current representative of Hygenic Pictures, Inc.

Mr. Owens was very modest but sincere as he related many of his triumphs on the cinder path at home and abroad. He reminded the youth of the responsibilities they must assume as citizens of tomorrow and of the importance of developing a strng mind as well as a strong body.

Mr. Owens said his greatest thrill came in Berlin, Germany when he won the Century race a a member of the United States' Olympic Team.

On the program also were Lonnie Briscoe, prominent young business man of Orange Mound and Robert Mebane, Boy Work Secretary of the Lauderdale YMCA.

J. D. Springer, Principal of Melrose called the attention of the students to the fact that in all his discourse Mr. Owens never mentioned the many difficulties he must have encountered because of his race. Thus, suggesting that race is not as great a handicap to Negro Americans as many often claim.

The program was sponsored by the Melrose Hi-Y Club. C. D. Goodlow is the faculty advisor. 3-18-47

# Jesse Owens Now Coaching, Fighting Discrimination with Halftime Talks

**The track season is on again in New York with a decided touch of Olympic fever and one of the regulars popped the inevitable question:**

"What ever became of Jesse Owens?"

**Wherever Olympic foot-racing is mentioned they still think of Jesse, triple-wreath winner, member of a victorious U. S. relay team and one of a group of Americans who forced the late Mr. Hitler to slink out of his Sportspalast at Berlin ten years ago rather than make an award to a "non-Aryan" winner.**

**Well, Jesse finally doing okay and he is still struggling for real democracy.**

**He is comfortable now with a home in Detroit, a little sporting goods store, a Negro baseball club at Portland, Ore., and a Negro basketball team which gives him a chance to make personal appearance talks on tolerance between halves.**

**Owens reported his basketball team took financial losses last season to play in towns he felt he could do a lot of good.**

**"We gave them a good show and a good game, it's a way to change their minds," he said.**

**Now 33, Jesse still is the trim, lithe figure of a decade ago when he won the Olympic 100 and 200 meter dashes, the broad jump and led the winning 400 meter relay team.**

**That was his greatest moment, but not his best performance. On May 25, 1935 Owens set four world records and tied another at Ann Arbor, Mich. His records of 20.3 seconds for 200 meters and 220 yards and 26 feet, 8¾ inches for the broad jump still stand although his mark of 22.6 for 220 yard low hurdles has since been lowered and others have tied his 9.4 for 100 yards.**

**Jesse has been up and down the scale since his heyday as an amateur runner. He ran pro exhibitions against men and horses, led a 15 piece dance band, worked for a distillery, punched a timeclock for awhile in an auto factory.**

**His basketball team began to click last year and he finally found what he wanted—a fairly decent living and a chance to strike a blow at lingering Jimcrow.**

# Jesse Owens? He Gets Along

New York, N.Y.

Jesse Owens

By Steve Snider
*United Press Sports Writer*

The track season is on again in New York and one of the regulars popped the inevitable question:

"What ever became of Jesse Owens?" Jul. 1-7-47

Well, Jesse finally is doing okay after hectic booms and depressions and he still is struggling for something he didn't win at the Berlin Olympics—tolerance.

He made his pile and he frittered it away. He never wants to be rich again, but he is comfortable now with a home in Detroit, a sporting goods store, a Negro baseball club at Portland, Ore., and a Negro basketball team which gives him a chance to make personal appearance talks on tolerance between halves.

Owens reported his basketball team took losses last season to play in towns where he felt he could do a lot of good, in "mining areas in the West, for example."

"We gave them a good show and a good game. It's a way to change their minds," he said.

Now 33, Jesse still is the trim, lithe figure of a decade ago when he won the Olympic 100 and 200 meter dashes, the broad jump, and led the winning 400-meter relay team.

Jesse has been up and down the scale since his heyday as an amateur runner. He ran pro exhibitions against men and horses, led a 15-piece dance band, worked for a distillery, preaching moderation, punched a time clock for awhile in an auto factory, and managed to blow "between $40,000 and $50,000 in the stock market in 1939." Jul. 1-7-47

# Jesse Owens Loves His Career

St. Louis, Mo. Argus Fri. 8-8-47

**Not even that fleet-footed little fellow 'Dan Cupid' was able to stop the sensational athletic career of Jesse Owens, "The World's Fastest Human" and pride of his colored race, according to Billy Weinberg, personal Mgr. and advance agent of Owens' current world lecture tour. Owens comes here in conjunction with the new Hollywood educational hygiene film. "Mom and Dad," and will lecture on health and hygiene to audiences attending the engagement at the Palace Gardens, 3924 Finny, opening Monday, Aug. 11, for a limited engagement.**

**Jesse Owens was born in Decatur, Ala., with his three brothers—Prentis, Quincy and Sylvester, and his five sisters—Josephine, Lillie Mae, Tullis Mae, Laverine and Pearline, and the parents, Henry and Emma Owens, young Jesse moved to Cleveland, O., while still a mere lad. In the northern city on the shores of beautiful Lake Erie, he soon became known for his speed. Jesse's brothers were all baseball players but the grade school youngsters in their neighborhood found it impossible to outrun 'the little Owens kid'.** Fri. 8/8/47

**Entering Cleveland East Tech high school in 1929, Jesse's natural speed received expert direction and coaching. By his junior year he had rung up three world scholastic records in track meets. It was at this point of his life that Romance moved in. He was in love with pretty Ruth Solomon. If you've been in love, you know 'Dan Cupid' won't wait. His high school marriage brought frowns from the school officials, but he was finally permitted to graduate. Desiring an education, Jesse obtained a job in Columbus, O., enabling him to support his wife and maintain a home there, while he attended Ohio State U., seeking a Bachelor of Arts degree. While at Ohio State the young Negro athlete covered himself with fame and glory, winning four world collegiate titles in one afternoon in a Big Ten Conference track meet at Ann Arbor, Mich.** Fri. 8-8-47

**Jesse and Ruth and their three lovely daughters, Gloria, 14, Beverly, 9, and Marline, 7, make their home today in Detroit, Mich.**

**Just how great an athlete Jesse Owens was in his prime is being attested by the fact today, 11 years later, his Olympic records still stand; 12 years later, his collegiate titles are untouched; and 15 years later, no high school athlete has bettered his scholastic marks. That he can speak with authority on sports, health and hygiene, is beyond dispute.**

# N. Y. U. FOUR RACES TO MILE TRIUMPH AT PENN CARNIVAL

## Pearman Outsprints McKenley of Illinois After Latter Is Victim of Collision

## ILLINI TEAM IS DOMINANT

## Wins 880 Before 40,000 for Third Victory—Fordham and Penn State Also Score

By JOSEPH M. SHEEHAN
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PHILADELPHIA, April 26—New York University was thanking its lucky stars tonight for a bad break that pushed Coach Emil Von Elling's pupils into the most sensational triumph of the fifty-third annual Penn Relays.

Reggie Pearman, running the anchor quarter in a mile relay that he had been scheduled to watch as a spectator, outsprinted the great Herb McKenley in a blistering stretch duel to bring the Violets home inches ahead of Illinois in the grand finale of the two-day carnival at Franklin Field.

The lanky N. Y. U. freshman had pussyfooted N. Y. U. to third place in a four-mile relay that the Violets could not win and had been scheduled to anchor his two-mile team to a probable victory. However, when Austin Scott fell on the opening leg, N. Y. U. was out of the running for the two-mile title and Von Elling sagely decided to save Pearman for the mile.

### Some Masterly Strategy

Events proved this to be a master bit of strategy, for who else could hold off McKenley, the world's premier quarter-miler, with a five-yard start? Pearman did it and stole the show, as he had yesterday with hsi 1:51.5 half-mile in the sprint medley.

There were mitigating circumstances for McKenley, who ran seven magnificent races and shared in all three of the victories that Illinois registered in dominating the meet for the second straight year. Touched off five yards behind Pearman, Hustling Herb lost two more before he could get untracked as the result of a collision with Maurice Callender that almost threw him to the cinders.

Callender, whose 49.6 second quarter had moved N. Y. U. into the lead ahead of Navy, had just handed the stick to Pearman and was crossing to the outside to get out of the way when McKenley, taking off in an outer lane, collided with him.

Wheeling into high right after this near-fall, McKenley set out in hot pursuit of Pearman and Navy's Art Bigley. He collared them at the head of the backstretch and hit the final turn in front. It looked as if Pearman were through here. He was in third place and wobbling, half stumbled on the curb.

### A Devastating Wallop

But the gawky powerhouse, who traded his Army khaki for a Violet uniform only ten weeks ago, has a devastating wallop at the finish of a race and, as the 40,000 spectators went wild, unleashed it in the stretch.

With a few giant strides he drew even with McKenley. Down the final straightaway they thundered neck and neck, until with a final painful effort in the last few yards Pearman slowly drew ahead. There were only inches separating the pair, but it was clearly Pearman's chest that snapped the tape.

The clockers caught Pearman in 48 seconds flat, and gave McKenley credit for 0:47.5. But the race with the thing and it was one of the best.

N. Y. U., with Milford Parker and Jim Gilhooley on the first two legs, had been in the contention all the way. Illinois, left twenty yards in the lurch when Bill Shurman led off weakly, had fought a great uphill battle to get in the picture, Bob Rehberg and Leroy Vranek making up fifteen yards on the leaders.

Navy finished third, ten yards back, as Manhattan's makeshift combination came home fourth. N. Y. U. and Illinois were clocked in 3:18.8.

### Record Appears in Sight

Earlier in the bright and sparkling day, Illinois, with Billy Mathis, Vranek, Bill Cook and McKenley, had won the 880-yard title. Until chance shoved Pearman into the driver's seat, it seemed certain that Leo Johnson's squad would increase its bag of major prizes to a record-equaling four.

As it turned out, Illinois' "dominance" of the two-day meet was not so clear. The Illini, shooting for six of the eight major relay titles, wound up with three firsts, two seconds and a third. N. Y. U. emerged with two triumphs, two seconds, a third and a fourth. Manhattan, which won two races last year, had to settle for three seconds, a third and a fourth.

A mishap to Johnny Quigley, Manhattan's anchor man, took some o fthe edge off Illinois' 880-yard triumph. The ace of the Jaspers, who returned 1:27.6 to the Illini's 1:27.4 in the qualifying heats and were expected to make a race of it in the final, pulled up lame after taking the stick and did not finish.

### Goes Like the Wind

It probably would have made little difference in the final result for McKenley, already out in front by a whisker, went like the wind. Stepping his furlong in 20.7 seconds, Hustling Herb brought Illinois home twelve yards ahead of N. Y. U., with Cornell third by three more, in 1:26.1, time that has been bettered here only twice before.

Homer Gillis, Warren Halliburton, Milford Parker and Ira Kaplan carried the stick for the Violets, who stuck right with Illinois and Manhattan for the first three legs. Joe Cianciabella, John Gorman and Al Rogers preceded Quigley for the Jaspers. The injury to Quigley also put Manhattan out of the running for the mile title.

Penn State ran away from Manhattan on the last two legs to win the four-mile relay by thirty-five yards in 17:32.6, fastest time registered here since 1941. Bill Shuman, Curtis Stone, Horace Ashenfelter and Gerry Karver carried the stick for the Nittany Lions. It was a two-team race after the second exchange, N. Y. U. finishing a distant third, ahead of Navy.

On the first leg, Shuman, with a 4:22.8 mile, opened five yards on Frank Dixon of N. Y. U. and eight on Manhattan's Tom Comerford. Stone, doing 4:24, finished three yards in back of Eddie Walsh of the Jaspers, who hit 4:22.3, as Armand Osterberg fell thirty yards behind to drop N. Y. U. out of the picture.

### Adds to the Margin

Driving all the way, Ashenfelter belted out a 4:21.5 mile to pile up twenty yards on Manhattan's John Flintner. Karver, the Intercollegiate A. A. A. A. indoor mile champion, rolled home in 4:24.3 against Bill Atkinson. The Jaspers, who won in 1946 with 18:07.5, did 17:39.9, but this was another year.

Fordham, which never before had won a major title here in years of trying, crashed home to a 15-yard triumph over Manhattan in the two-mile relay, with Illinois third.

Frank Leary, Ed Carney, John O'Hare and Jerry Connolly handled the stick for the Rams, doing their half miles in 2:01.4, 1:56.6, 1:57.3 and 1:55.4, respectively, O'Hare put Fordham ten yards out in front and that was the race.

Manhattan ran with John Moran, Phil O'Connell, Eddie Walsh and Bill Atkinson. Illinois used Bill Beile, Bob Rehberg, Clarence Dunn and John Twomey, and was out in front at the halfway mark.

Indiana, with Bill Mitchell, Fred Johnson, Robert Jones and Tom Mitchell, won the 480-yard shuttle hurdles relay in 61.4 seconds in a blanket finish with the North Carolina team anchored by Floyd Simmons. Virginia was ten yards back in third place.

### Hammack Army Ace

Army, with Michael De Armand, Charles Nash, James Egger and John Hammack, captured the Class B college one-mile relay championship. The cadets returned 3:20.1, with Hammack doing 48.2 seconds for his anchor stint. Duke and Manhattan, in the same heat as Army, took second and third on time, doing 3:22 and 3:23.6, respectively.

Villanova's quartet of Jack Crabtree, Gene Kelly, Ed Fitzgerald and George Guida turned in the fastest performance of five college class mile relays. With Guida ripping off a 49.2-second anchor quarter, the Wildcats were caught in 3:21.7. Other winers were Wayne of Detroit, in 3:25.1; Howard of Washington, in 3:25.7; Kings Point, in 3:28.5, and Massachusetts State, in 3:32.8.

Johns Hopkins, with Don Sterns, George Glenner, Frank Hurka and Leon Swartz, led home Catholic U., Washington and Delaware in 3:27.8 to take the Mason-Dixon Conference championship race.

### An Eyelash Verdict

Little Billy Mathis of Illinois, the national 100-meter champion, won an eyelash verdict over Lieut. Bill Carter ofLockbourne Airbase, last year's winner, in the special 100-yard dash. Fred Jones of Lincoln was third and Charles Jupiter of Howard fourth in a blanket finish. The time was 0:09.9.

New Hampshire's Boo Morcum set a meet record of 14 feet 3 inches in winning the pole vault from Bob Richards of Illinois, who cleared 14 feet. N. Y. U.'s Irving Mondschein leaped 23 feet 9¾ inches to take the broad jump from Morcom and was a party to a five-man tie at 6 feet 4 inches in the high jump. Also in the deadlock were Columbia's Bill Vessie, Dwight Eddleman of Illinois, Ed Taylor of Western Michigan and John Jones of Montgomery Teachers.

Brown's Bob Bennett, who won the hammer throw here way back in 19A40, won it again this morning. The big southpaw flipped the ball and chain 157 feet 11 inches, a foot farther than James Burnham of Dartmouth. Bill Ianicelli's 206-foot toss gave the F. and M. star the javelin prize over Earl Marshall of West Liberty, who did 205 feet 8⅛ inches.

### Morris Completes Doubles

High of the Bronx, which won the distance medley yesterday, completed a handsome double by capturing the high school two-mile event. Jim Sheehan, Bill Brown, Randolph Philpotts and Bill Lucas handled the stick and hit 8:20 in the second of the three heats in this fifty-six team race, decided on time.

De Witt Clinton, whose Frank Efinger returned 2:00.4 for the fastest individual half, won the first heat in 8:20.8 to take second place. Bishop Loughlin, which did 8:21.1 behind Clinton, placed third ahead of St. Peter's of Jersey City, the third heat winner in 8:22.6.

## The Summaries

### INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

Javelin Throw—1, William Ianncelli, Franklin and Marshall, 206 feet; 2, Earl Marshall, West Liberty State, 205 feet 8⅛ inches; 3, Floyd Lang, Penn State, 189 feet 10¼ inches; 4, William Parrish, Pittsburgh, 189 feet 5¾ inches.

Hammer Throw—1, Robert Bennett, Brown, 157 feet 11 inches; 2, James Burnham, Dartmouth, 156 feet 10¾ inches; 3, Edmund Sterna, New Hampshire, 151 feet 9 inches; 4, Homer Stanley, Yale, 143 feet 3⅝ inches.

Broad Jump—1, Irving Mondschein, New York University, 23 feet 9⅜ inches; 2, A. Richard Morcom, New Hampshire, 23 feet 6⅜ inches; 3, Homer Gillis, New York University, 23 feet 5¾ inches; 4, Roger Grayson, Howard, 23 feet 10½ inches.

High Jump—Tie for first among Irving Mondschein, New York U.; John Jones, Montgomery (Ala.) Teachers; Ed Taylor, Western Michigan; Dwight Eddleman, Illinois, and William Vessie, Columbia. 6 feet 4 inches.

100-Yard Dash—1, Bill Mathis, Illinois; 2, Lieut. William Carter, Lockbourne Air Base, Ohio; 3, Frederick Jones Jr., Lincoln; 4, Charles Jupiter, Howard. Time—0:09.7.

Pole Vault—1, A. Richard Morcom, New Hampshire, 14 feet 3 inches; 2, Robert Richards, Illinois, 14 feet; tie for third between George Coleman, Villanova, and Herbert Matter, Illinois, 13 feet (new record; old record, 14 feet 2⅜ inches, set by Ralph Ross, Army, 1940).

### COLLEGE RELAYS

Half-Mile (Championship)—1, Illinois (Bill Mathis, Leroy Vranek, Bill Cook, Herbert McKenley; 2, New York University; 3, Cornell. (Manhattan didn't finish.) Time—1:26.1.

Mason-Dixon Conference Mile—1, Johns Hopkins (Donald Sterns, George Glenner, Frank Hurka, Leon Swartz); 2, Catholic University; 3, Washington College; 4, Delaware. Time—3:27.8.

College Class Mile—1, Villanova (Joe McCreerey, Gene Kelly, Ed Fitzgerald, George Guida); 2, St. Francis, Brooklyn; 3, Bucknell; 4, Gettysburg. Time—3:21.7.

College Class Mile—1, Massachusetts State (Charles Warner, Alec Campbell, Bernard Cossar, Louie Clough); 2, Hofstra; 3, Susquehanna; 4, Pennsylvania Military. Time—3:32.8.

College Class Mile—1, Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, N. Y. (William Gannon, John Strandberg, Robert Crabtree, Edward Michalski); 2, Lock Haven (Pa.) Teachers; 3, West Chester (Pa.) Teachers; 4, La Salle (Philadelphia). Time—3:28.5.

College Class Mile—1, Wayne University (Bob Wingo, James Karolionok, Harley Greenberg, Joe Dudley); 2, Wheaton College; 3, Swarthmore; 4, Brooklyn College. Time—3:25.1.

College Class Mile—1, Howard (Basil Keane, Miguel Pulido, Harry Bright, William Collins); 2, Rutgers; 3, Lafayette; 4, City College of New York. Time—3:25.7. (Morgan State finished first but was disqualified for roughing on turn).

Four-Mile (Championship)—1, Penn State (Bill Shuman, Curtis Stone, Horace Ashenfelter Gerald Karver); 2, Manhattan; 3, New York University; 4, Navy. Time—17:32.6.

480-Yard Shuttle Hurdles (Championship)—1, Indina (Bill Mitchell, Fred Johnson, Bob Jones, Thomas Mitchell); 2, North Carolina; 3, Virginia. Time—1:01.4 (only three teams in finals).

College Mile (Championship)—1, New York U. (Bill Cook, James Gilhooley, Maurice Callender, Reggie Pearman); 2, Illinois; 3, Navy; 4, Manhattan. Time—3:18.8.

Class B Mile (Championship)—1, Army (Michael Dearmond, Charles Nash, James Egger, John Hammack); 2, Duke; 3, Manhattan; tie for fourth between Virginia Union and Princton. Time—3:20.9.

Two-Mile (Championship)—1, Fordham (Francis Leary, Edwin Carney, John O'Hare, Jerry Connolly); 2, Manhattan; 3, Illinois; 4, Pennsylvania. Time—7:50.7.

### SCHOOL EVENTS

Mile High School Relay (Championship)—1, Bishop Loughlin, Brooklyn (James Crowley, Thomas McHugh, Patrick O'Brien, William Shelley); 2, Brooklyn Boys; 3, St. Augustine, Brooklyn; 4, West Catholic, Philadelphia. Time—3:26.6.

Mile Prep School Relay (Championship)—1, Seton Hall (Bart Crawley, Bill Minogue, James Hanlon, Charles Slade); 2, Mercersburg; 3, Lawrenceville; 4, New York Military. Time—3:26.7.

High School Two-Mile Relay (Championship)—1, Morris, New York City (James Sheehan, Bill Brown, Randolph Philpotts, William Lucas); 2, DeWitt Clinton, New York; 3, Bishop Loughlin, New York; 4, St. Peters, Jersey City. Time—8:20.

#### HIGH SCHOOL CLASS MILE RELAYS

First Race—1, Butler, N. J. (Arold Weir, Dick Behringer, Joe Sala, Lou Garcia); 2, Linden, N. C.; 3, Reading, Pa., Central Catholic; 4, St. Agnes, New York City. Time—3:40.3.

Scond Race—1, Ambler, Pa. (Bernard Williams, Grover Durham, Harold Wolff, Joseph Johnson); 2, St. Ann's Academy, New York City; 3, North Arlington, N. J.; 4, Scott, East Orange, N. J. Time—3:36.1.

Third Race—1, Swarthmore, Pa. (Harry McGilberry, Gordon Follett, Barry Patton, Thomas Ortiga); 2, Long Beach, N. Y.; 3, Concord, Mass.; 4, Doylestown, Pa. Time—3:35.9.

Fourth Race—1, Lansale, Pa. (Richard Albright, Ray Leight, Kenneth Moyer, Reese Rusediger); 2, Cranford, N. J.; 3, Hatboro, Pa.; 4, Sellersville-Perkasie, Pa. Time—3:35.2.

Fifth Race—1, Atlantic City (Albert Mundy, Ellwood Graham, Bernhard Boasmund, George Dickerson); 2, Lincoln, N. J.; 3, Holy Spirit, Atlantic City; 4, Collingswood, N. J. Time—3:33.7.

Sixth Race—1, Columbia, N. J. (Norman Birkenmeier, Stewart Merz, Robert Branch, Robert Turnerl); 2, Bronxville, N. Y.; 3, Coaldale, Pa.; 4, Ridgewood, N. Y. Time—3:35.7.

Seventh Race—1, Haddon Heights, N. J. (Scott Lippincott, Paul Palmer, George Brown, Albert Beckett); 2, Palymra, N. J.; 3, Millville, N. J.; 4, Power Memorial, New York City.

Time—3:36.9.

Eighth Race—1. Ocean City, N. J. (Joe Thompson, Frank Leonard, John Haines, Russ Mulford); 2, Pittman, N. J.; 3, Penns Grove, N. J.; 4, Wildwood, N. J. Time—3:41.4.

Ninth Race—1, Phelps Vocational, Washington, D. C. (Elton Saltee, Quentin Yale, Edward Nelson, James Brown); 2, Princeton, N. J.; 3, Neptune, N. J.; 4, Birdsboro, Pa. Time —3:39.7.

New York, N.Y.

Tenth Race—1, Haverford Township (Bruce Stratton, Frank Kramer, Robert Steinman, Robert Schleinzig); 2, Abington, Pa.; 3, Pierre S. DuPont, Wilmington, Del; 4, Ridley Park, Pa. Time—3:35.4.

Eleventh Race—1 Pelham, N. Y. (John Sprague, Joseph Walsh, Lloyd Singley, Donald Violenzo); 2, Kearney, N. J.; 3, Adams, New York City; 4, Bayonne, N. J. Time—3:34.9.

Twelfth Race—1, Chester, Pa. (Harry Koanaman, William Fletcher, Noah Gethers, Donald Fontaine); 2, Norristown, Pa.; 3, West Chester, Pa.; 4, Stuyvesant, New York City. Time—3:33.3.

Thirteenth Race—1, John Harris, Harrisburg, Pa. (Warren Norris, Oliver Rowland, James Middaugh, Frederick Sherrill); 2, William Penn, Harrisburg, Pa.; 3, Bethlehem, Pa.; 4, Lancaster, Pa. Time—3:32.9.

Fourteenth Race—1, DeWitt Clinton, New York (Vincent Godwin, William Ransom, Marcus Gray, Harvey Scott⁰; 2, LaSalle, Philadelphia; 3, Camden (N. J.) County Vocational; 4, Englewood, N. J. Time—3:33.3.

Fifteenth Race—1, St. Peter's, Jersey City (Jack Cassidy, Jack O'Donnel, George Glaser, Gerald Kallman); 2, Bishop Loughlin, Brooklyn; 3, Douglas, Md.; 4, East New York Vocational. Time—3:34.4.

Sixteenth Race—1, West Philadelphia (Gilbert McNeil, Henry Lewis, Joseph Hunter, Tom Laws); 2, Philadelphia Central; 3, Bryant, New York City; 4, St. Augustine Diocesan, Brooklyn. Time—3:36.2.

Seventeenth Race—1, New Utrecht, Brooklyn (Jesse Gersten, Erwin McCalla, Lou Morelli, Ed Terranova); 2, Haaren, New York City; 3, Frankford, Philadelphia; 4, Armstrong Technical, Washington, D. C. Time—3:32.2.

Eighteenth Race—1, Bartram, Philadelphia (Carl Richardson, William Anderson, David Sill, Thomas Smith); 2, St. Michael's, Jersey City; 3, Harrisburg, Pa., Catholic; 4, Durham, N. C. Time—3:32.3.

Nineteenth Race—1, James Monroe, New York City (Harold Belsky, Joseph Gilly, Leonard Schleikorn, Milton Trupsky); 2, Ferris, Jersey City; 3, Fordham, New York City; 4, Snyder, Jersey City. Time—3:35.5.

# THROUGH THE YEARS

By FAY YOUNG

Chicago Defender

## OUR ATHLETES HAVE DONE WELL IN PENN RELAY CARVIVAL

Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 5-3-47

PHILADELPHIA—WITH REGGIE PEARMAN of New York university pulling two thrilling finishes in the Penn Relays and the all-Negro quartet of Bill Mathis, George Walker, William Cook and Herb McKenley walking away with the quartermile championship of America, we felt sort of recompensed for our inability to outguess the local weatherman. From a rainy Friday morning, a cold afternoon which chilled us to the bone and sent us to bed at 8 o'clock, we were then treated to a bright sunshiny day on Saturday and boarded the Broadway Limited that night with a nice sunburn—the first of the season.

* * *

Fay Young

**THE 53RD ANNUAL PENN** Relay Carnival, with its heroes, is over. Our mind drifts back to yesteryear and the Negro performers who made it possible for today's galaxy of Negro stars.

It might be well to mention some of them. In 1914 and 1915, Howard P. Drew, then of Southern California university and now an attorney in Hartford, Conn., won the 100-yard dash. In 1914, his time was 10.2 seconds and the following year 10 flat. Rather good for that day and time.

Sol Butler won the event in 10.6 in 1919. He represented Dubuque college in Iowa. DeHart Hubbard, University of Michigan, came through to win in 9.8 seconds in 1925. Eulace Peacock of Temple was winner in 10.6 in 1935; Jesse Owens, Ohio State, 10.5 in 1936; Peacock with 9.8 in 1937; Ben Johnson, Columbia, with 9.8 in 1938; Mozel Ellerbe, Tuskegee Institute, in 1939 with 9.6, and again in 1940 with 9.8. Thus Negroes reigned supreme in the Invitational 100 yard dash for six straight years. In 1942, Leo Tarrant, Alabama State Teachers college of Montgomery, did a 9.7 to win. In 1944, Henry N. "Barney" Ewell, Camp Lee, did a 9.8 and made it two wins in a row by essaying the distance in 9.9 in 1945. William G. Carter, formerly of Pittsburgh U., but then of Tuskegee Army Air Field, Ala., won in 1946 in 9.8 and this year Bill Mathis, University of Illinois was victor in 9.9.

It must be remembered that Ellerbe and Tarrant were from Negro schools. Ellerbe and George Simpson, white, Ohio State, hold the Penn Relay record of 9.6.

Sat. 5-3-47

**THE NEGRO WINNERS IN** the high hurdles were Willis Ward, Michigan, (110 meters) in 1935 in 14.5, Ed Dugger, Tufts college, Mass. (120 yards) in 14.4 in 1941; Harrison Dillard, Baldwin-Wallace, Ohio, 14.8 in 1943.

Leroy Dues, City College of Detroit with 48:05 in 1938 and Bill Watson, Michigan, with 52:09.25 in 1939 were shot put winners.

Archie Harris, Indiana, in 1941, hurled the discus 167:10.125.

High jump winners were Al Threadgill, Temple (tied for first) in 1935 with 6:04; Dave Albritton, Ohio State, with 6:05 in 1936; Threadgill in 1937 with 6:05; Albritton in 1938 with 6:05.875; Joshua Williamson, Xavier of New Orleans, with 6:04 in 1940; Adama Berry, Southern university, Scotlandville, La., with 6:07.500 in 1943; Don Barksdale, Camp Lee, Va., in 1944 with 6:04 and this year Ed Taylor of Western Michigan, and Grayson, Howard, were among the five tied for first place with 6:04.

* * *

**GEORGE D. WILLIAMS**, Hampton Institute, is the only Negro to break into the victory column in the javelin throw. He won in 1931 with 197:01.500 and again in 1932 with 205:02.375.

Howard P. Drew won the broad jump with 22 feet in 1914. Sol Butler did 23:05 in 1917; Butler did 23:00.500 in 1919; E. O. Gourdin, Harvard, was winner in 1921 with 23:10.500 and in 1923, DeHart Hubbard, Michigan, had 23:10.500.

Then a strange thing happened. Eulace Peacock bobbed up in the Penn Relays broad jump. He did 25:00.250 in 1935. Jesse Owens' mark was 23:00.625 in 1936. Peacock did 24:01 in 1937; Bill Watson, Michigan, 24:11.500 in 1938; Henry Norwood Ewell, Penn State, 24:05.500 in 1942; Peacock (then of the Manhattan Beach Coast Guard) 24:01 in 1943; Ewell (Camp Lee, Va.), 24:02.125 in 1944; Peacock (Coast Guard), 23:09.375 in 1945 and Fred Johnson, Camp Le juene, N. C., 23:01.25 in 1946. Strange: Peacock holds four championships. Each time his marks were better than Owens' jumps at Penn.

Sat. 5-3-47

Eugene Beatty reigned supreme in the 400-meters hurdles in 1931, 1932 and 1933. The Michigan Normal timber topper ran them in 54.7, 53.3, and 55.8. The late John Borican, Virginia State, was next in 1938 with 53.6. Gilder Farrow, Xavier, came through in 1941 with 55.2. Elmore Harris, Morgan State, won in 1944 with 56.1. Clarence Doak, Xavier, triumphed in 1942 in 55.2.

51m 1947

# Hampton Captures CIAA Wrestling Title At Lincoln

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY, Pa.—Hampton Institute captured the CIAA wrestling title and took second place honors to Howard University in the 13th annual CIAA Boxing and Wrestling meet held at Lincoln University on Friday and Saturday, March 21 and 22.

Lincoln, the host team, copped two individual wrestling championships when Samuel Goudelock of Camden, N. J., and Sidney Bridgeforth of Bridgeport, Connecticut, won their bouts. Bridgeforth, weighing 240 lbs., pinned his opponent in 1.42 seconds of the first round.